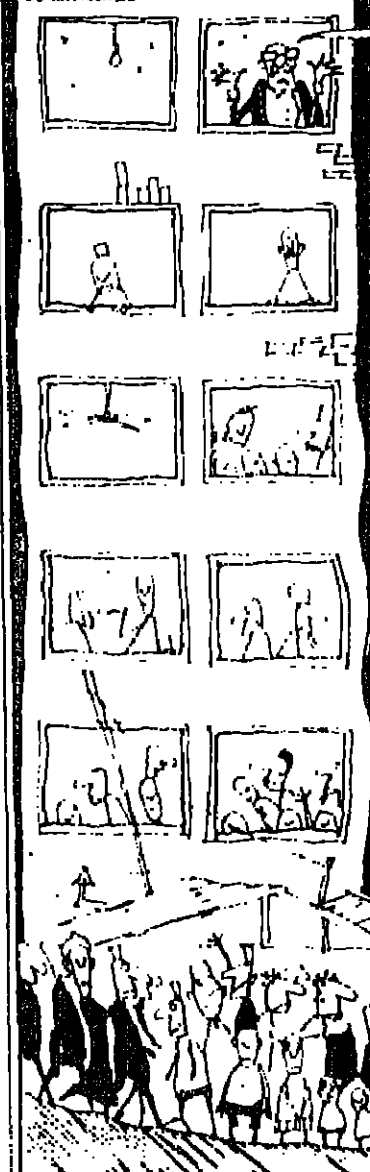


Topic

EXPLODING CITIES



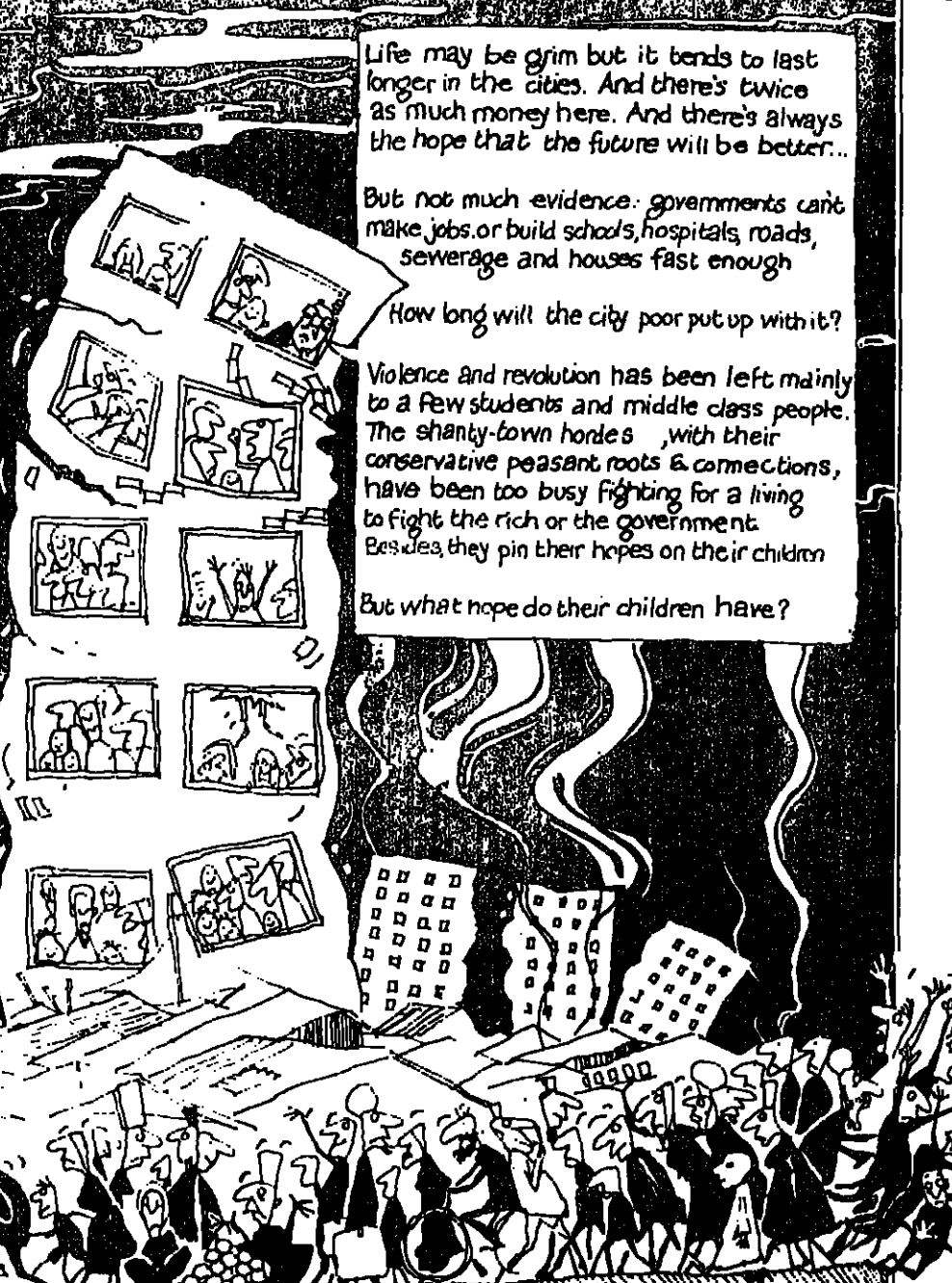
In 20 years time half the people in the world will be living in cities - two-thirds of them in the 3rd World.

And most of those cities will be enormous shanty towns - some with over 20 million inhabitants.

About half the city people of the 3rd World now have almost no access to piped water. Two-thirds of families in Calcutta live in one room.

There have never been enough industrial jobs in the cities to go round. And the gap is getting bigger. There is little to fill it but better business and the black market.

So why are slum populations set to double every ten years? Half the extra people are born here and half pack in from the countryside.



Life may be grim but it tends to last longer in the cities. And there's twice as much money here. And there's always the hope that the future will be better...

But not much evidence: governments can't make jobs or build schools, hospitals, roads, sewerage and houses fast enough.

How long will the city poor put up with it?

Violence and revolution has been left mainly to a few students and middle class people. The shanty-town hordes, with their conservative peasant roots & connections, have been too busy fighting for a living to fight the rich or the government. Besides they pin their hopes on their children.

But what hope do their children have?

3rd World Debt

It's like this in 1973 OPEC got its act together. The price of oil doubled and doubled again.



By now the world economy was slumped in recession. But our banks in the West were awash with cash because the oil producers couldn't spend it fast enough themselves.



So we had this bright idea of "recycling" this money in loans to the fast-developing countries of the 3rd World (particularly in Latin America).

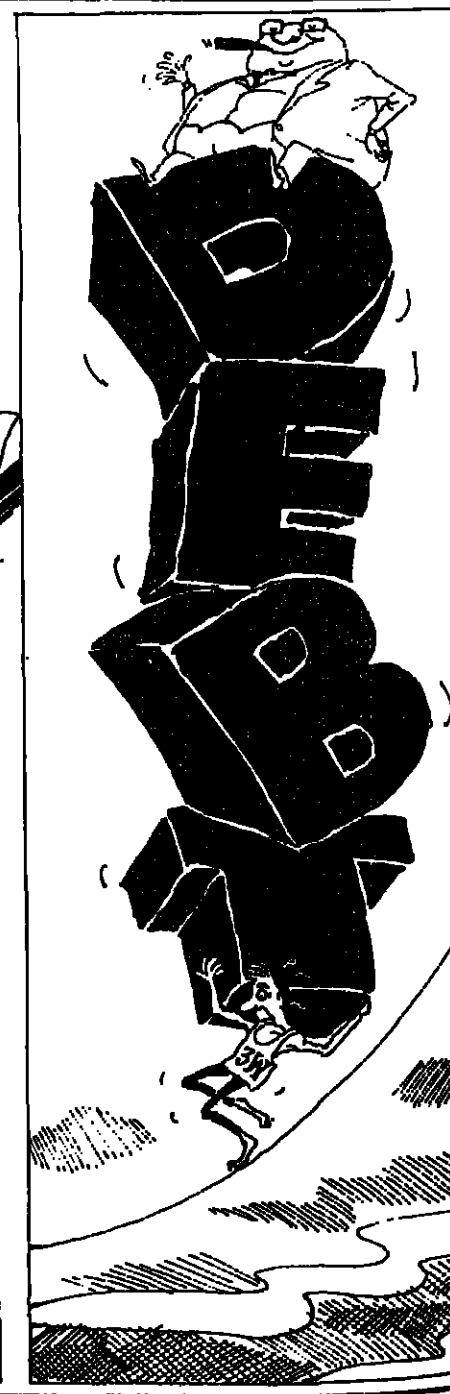
Unfortunately the 3rd World countries were no longer developing fast. Their export trade was hit by the world recession.

Luckily the International Monetary Fund came to the rescue with a scheme (unkindly nicknamed the Sticking-plaster scheme) to lend each of the worst-hit countries a bit more time and money so they could go on paying us more back...

for us. If the 3rd World defaulted on its debts OUR whole banking system would be in really big trouble.

So we now have the very interesting situation that there is a net OUTFLOW of money from the 3rd World to the West which amounts to way over \$10,000,000,000 a year.

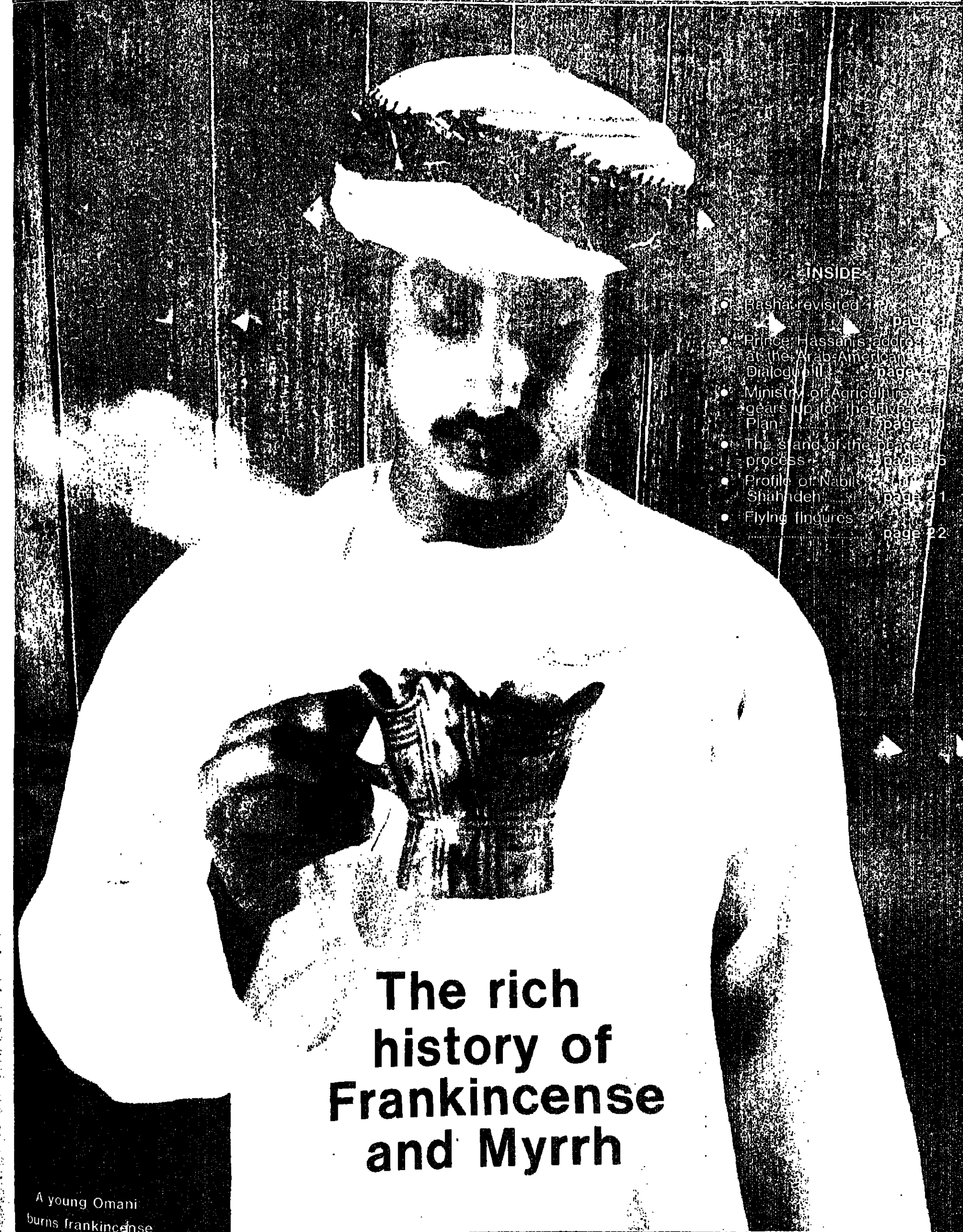
3rd World exports went up as a result. But still not as fast as their debts...



The Jerusalem Star

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The rich history of Frankincense and Myrrh

A young Omani burns frankincense

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Yarmouk Model School donates to UNICEF

By Kathy Kakish
Special to The Star

AFTER ONLY a few seconds of tapping on the knobs of a calculator, a group of secondary school students were amazed to see that their donation of JD 143 could provide 7,150 doses of vaccines against tuberculosis, or about 18,000 doses of vaccines against polio. These are two of the six main infant and child killer diseases in the world.

Some 30 students of Yarmouk University Model School in Irbid visited recently the Amman-based regional offices of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to make the donation. The group had last year under the umbrella of their school American programme organized a sponsored walk in the area of Ajloun, in which each kilometre walked, cost sponsors 100 fils per centime. Altogether they walked some six kilometres worth about JD 100. The collection was set aside until an organization or charitable society was selected to be beneficiary. It took one year to nominate it beneficiary. It followed the release of the UNICEF State of the World's Children 1986 Report.

Among UNICEF staff to wel-

come the students at the regional office was Mr Victor Solar-Sala, Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa. He explained in detail the aims and objectives of the UNICEF mission worldwide. This was followed by a video show of the State of the World's Children. The film, produced by UNICEF, sums up the four major cost effective methods which can help save most of the children of the world: immunization, Oral rehydration therapy, Breastfeeding, and Growth monitoring. The film is backed up with UNICEF experiences shown from field work in a number of developing countries.

Mr Steve Woodhouse, Senior Programme Officer at the regional office contributed information on some of the programmes conducted jointly by UNICEF and the Jordanian government, which among other things, include immunization and oral rehydration therapy campaigns. He said UNICEF hopes, to embark upon, within the next two years, a large oral rehydration therapy programme under which great emphasis will be laid on marketing and making available the Jordanian public oral rehydration salts

(ORS). It is also expected that ORS will be produced locally. This also involves a comprehensive awareness campaign to inform the public about the importance and utilization of such salts.

The cheque was presented by Jed Hardcastle, a student now in the eighth grade, who had raised the highest amount of money individually through the sponsored walk. The students also watched a second film, "The Boom" produced by the United Nations in New York, which depicts the impact of armament on the human race.

Mr Solar-Sala on his part presented to the group a video documentary on the immunization campaign in Turkey — much to the delight of the Turkish nationals among the students.

It seems that UNICEF in Jordan has more to add to its list of UNICEF volunteers. This began when one of the students emptied his pockets and asked how many UNICEF greeting cards could be bought with JD 1. He got five cards. In his own way, he is helping to save some five children somewhere in the world.



A brief lecture on UNICEF'S activities



Mr Solar-Sala in a tele-a-tete with one of the students

Rasha revisited Health of surviving twin progresses

By Joyce Niles
Special to The Star

TWO YEARS ago, The Star ran a story on the first ever craniopagus separation operation that was performed for conjoined twin Jordanian girls. The little girls, born in August, 1983, in Salt hospital, were connected by the tops of their heads, virtually sharing one brain.

Their case was only the ninth such in over four hundred years of medical history. The separation operation, which was performed by Brig. Gen. Dr. Adel Shureideh of the Royal Medical Services at the King Hussein Medical Centre, had not preceded in medical history. No one had ever done this sort of operation before. The stronger of the twins was saved in this daring procedure.

The Star recently went "back to talk to Dr Shureideh about the surviving twin's progress. Rasha is now two and a half years old. She is alive and well, according to Dr Shureideh, who sees her every two months.

"Now Rasha has been out of the hospital for nearly one and half years and has been living with her parents in the Jordan Valley. Her growth and development are acceptable to 80 to 90 per cent and she can stand, has no fits or epilepsy, and her senses are OK. She sees, hears, touches, can smell and talks. She can say, "Mama, Baba, No," and understands everything that is happening around her and has appropriate emotional responses. Her appetite is good also. Her intelligence is moderate, average," Dr Shureideh revealed, adding, "Her mother now has a babyboy, born about eight months ago, and perfectly normal in every respect."

Yet, everything is not going smoothly for Rasha in other areas of her life, in spite of her amazingly good neurological condition after being separated from her sister.

"Several times, when Rasha was brought in to see me, she has been in an anaemic condition. During those times, I kept her here in the King Hussein Medical Centre for a few days so that I could give her a proper diet with supplements

of multivitamins." He continued, "Another time, when her mother brought her, she had a very high temperature with a respiratory tract infection. I had told the mother repeatedly that I would be happy to see her and take care of any problem that she had with Rasha any time. Yet, I feel that the child is being neglected, especially now that the parents have a son."

Dr Shureideh speculated further on possible reasons for what he sees as some degree of neglect on the part of the parents.

"They are uneducated so perhaps this makes it more difficult for them to care for her. Perhaps they also think her handicapped, although she is not. And now that they have a boy, there is even less reason to give her extra care. Maybe, they would even be relieved if someone else would take her and care for her," he said. "I will question the mother further when she brings Rasha in for her check-up in February."

Whatever the problem is with the parents, and perhaps their own strenuous life as agricultural workers contributes to the difficulties, Rasha has yet another operation in store for her in six months to one year from now.

When she was separated from her sister, Myyada, there was not enough bone tissue to close up the top of her skull where the two girls were connected, so the surgical team fashioned a double-layered covering of lyo-dura, the tough leathery brain covering, and another layer of scalp cut from the initial incision and designed to give her a shield of artificial bone to cover the top of her head between the dura and the scalp, a better protection for her brain.

The surgery is being delayed until that time because the human brain reaches 80 per cent of its adult size by the time the child is three years old, although the sub-cortical development of memory, perception, language, etc., continue to the age of twelve.

Other kinds of events

By Dana Adams Schmidt

WASHINGTON — With all the horrendous events of the day to distract us, sometimes we forget that there are also other kinds of events. For instance, have you heard...

Pierre Cardin has concluded a tentative agreement with the Soviet Union to sell the Russians 100 styles for clothes every six months. They are to be made in 35 Russian factories. And Cardin gave credit for initiating the deal to Raisa Gorbachev, who visited his Paris warehouse last October.

New York's subways have long symbolized noise — raucous, harsh, overpowering. But now the Metropolitan Transportation Authority has begun concerts in eight key stations. On track 3 of the 42nd street station at Grand Central the other day a five-piece brass quintet was playing "Rondeau" by Jean Joseph Mouret and subway riders were both pleased and befuddled. MTA chairman James Kiley says similar entertainment was begun in Boston, then copied in Paris.

Three species of sea turtles like to nest on a coral reef off Puerto Rico. Now their nests are being spoiled by oil and debris from the 10-month-old wreck of a 335-foot ferry-boat. The green, leatherback and hawksbill turtles can't get through the coating of oil on the beach to lay their eggs. Or if they do, the hatchlings have trouble getting out. In addition the turtles' pathway is blocked by debris including carpets, bathroom fixtures and kitchen utensils. Unable to walk backwards the turtles get blocked by the mess and just die there.

The World Health Organization says a type of contraceptive that

is inserted under the skin of the upper arm will work for five years. Under the trade name of Norplant, it consists of the synthetic hormone progesterin contained in six silicone cylinders the size of matchsticks. Approved for use in Sweden and Finland it is not yet licensed in the United States.

In an effort to re-establish wildlife in habitats from which hunters and urban spread have driven them many of the United States are exchanging animals. Wisconsin recently made a trade with Colorado: river otters for weasel-like pine martens. Michigan bartered 145 wild turkeys for 29 moose from Canada.

Montana has a few extra grizzly bears but nobody wants them. Trumpeter Swans, the largest water fowl native to North America, are being re-established throughout the Middle West. They nearly disappeared during rapid settlement in the 1880's when hunted for food and plumage. But local residents sometimes object. When Michigan relocated eight timber wolves a few years ago they were quickly killed by local residents.

The mighty New York Times in its lead editorial advocates taking advantage of the "collapse of OPEC" and the presumable drop in the price of oil, by imposing a tax of \$8 on every imported barrel. Such a tax, it says would enrich the Treasury by \$30 billion "in tax revenue" and another \$15 in income and windfall taxes on domestic oil, and help cut the \$200 billion deficit.

Nuseibeh raps superpowers

AMMAN (Star) — Dr Hazem Nuseibeh, Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs said Tuesday that both superpowers have lost their respective sense of mission, zealotry and idealism in their international behaviour. Dr Nuseibeh made the remark in an address at a dinner held for the participants of the Second Arab-American Dialogue.

He said since the end of the Second World War, the burden and responsibility of global power have fallen upon the two existing superpowers, which in Arab perception, are primarily engaged in the perennial game of nations contending for security, preponderance and prestige much more than an intense conflict of interests either geographically, materially or differing views about the nature of the universe.

Dr Nuseibeh said it is cynical to see the United States supporting the total withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan and self-determination for its people, but in the same breath takes an antagonistic and diametrically opposed position on the human and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people for a homeland on their national soil and self-determination for its people.

He continued that in the Arab perception, American ideals and values such as democracy, freedom, human rights and the rule of law which by and large the Arab world deeply cherishes, is an internal American bias but is not for export.

Dr Nuseibeh said American support for Israel has been partly explained by the perception that there are shared common values between the two countries, such as democratic systems of government. He added that one cannot but wonder whether the denial of



Dr Hazem Nuseibeh

democratic rights in real terms, to 40 per cent of the Palestinian Arab inhabitants living within what used to be mandated Palestine can be any stretch of the imagination be accepted as democratic. He said the Palestinians of 1948 who are presumed to be Israeli citizens have been suffering and still suffer great disabilities in every walk of life.

committed to a just and lasting peace in the Middle East on the basis of the Arab Summit Conference Peace Plan agreed upon at Fez. "It should be a collective peace and not a separate peace which would be self-defeating, unfeasible and simply leads to further turmoil in the Middle East," he added.

Dr Nuseibeh stated that the PLO as the legitimate representa-

Dr Nuseibeh said Jordan is

'The wise men from the east'

Continued from page 6

the birth of Christ. It was normal practice that the caravans' loads would be sold to the Nabataeans, who would then carry them the last part of the journey to the Mediterranean where Gaza in Palestine and Alexandria in Egypt were terminal ports.

The Three Wise Men would most likely have passed through Petra on their way to Bethlehem. The town was certainly on the route. They would have been astounded, had they not been there before, as they rode down a five kilometre zig, then caught sight of

a magnificent building some 120 feet high, hewn into the rocks — Petra's treasury.

But alas, greatness perishes. The same thing happened to Petra. The Romans succeeded in conquering Petra in 108 AD, and within a few centuries it had lost its former importance as a trading centre, because the trade was rerouted. It disappeared into oblivion until rediscovered by the Swiss discoverer, Johann Burckhardt.

The same happened to the incense lands of Southern Arabia. Incense in incense dwindled as the

rituals of the Catholic Church were simplified and the Reformation made its marks on Northern Europe. At the same time, the Europeans found new sea routes to the Orient and also ensured, with the expansion of their empires, that trade potential in Arabia was destroyed.

Incense has no special economic importance for Dhofar these days, although some is still exported to India and to European perfume manufacturers. Nor does it really matter, for they have now found a new source of prosperity: oil, the black gold.

Why people like 'Dallas' on TV

The television series Dallas displays a new kind of neighbourliness to regular television viewers, satisfying an emotional need, giving support and a sense of security, trust, and a sense of belonging.

A special feature of this neighbourliness is its reliability and regularity. Viewers know that the family in the series will be there once a week and they can depend on them to be there.

Meeting real friends at home, or outside the house, gets to be a drag.

Günter Mahke of the psychology institute of the university in Cologne revealed these attitudes after interviews with 15 people.

The series about the world of Texan oil millionaires gives viewers a sense of relief, presenting them with an agreeable world.

Contrary to the real world that is

so complicated, the viewer is never in an awkward situation. He or she does not have to work out relationships. The viewer knows who is good and who is bad.

The viewer is in possession of an explanation for everything that happens. The viewer can condemn the action as clumsy, but it is always consistent.

The series presents the viewer with an entity that enables him to experience security, good order and an overall view, renewed everytime an episode is shown.

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THE INITIATION OF the United States as a world power in the Middle East coincided with the emergence of the Palestine question as a problem of international proportions. Britain's resort to the United Nations in 1947 ensured its non-resolution and the establishment of the status quo, thus perpetuating a conflict which has grown ever more complex in terms of participants, influence on regional stability, and the security of the whole world.

There is little doubt today that the Arab-Israeli conflict posed and continues to pose a threat of far greater dimensions than was ever envisaged originally. It has already caused five major wars between the Arabs and the Israelis and on at least two occasions has led to serious superpower confrontation.

Moreover, it triggered off an economic crisis in terms of energy shortage of proportions unknown to the international community since the crash of 1929 and the resultant depression. It continues to pose a threat whose contemporary manifestations we have all witnessed in the spread of political terrorism and religious fundamentalism.

Eisenhower Doctrine

Throughout most of the last four decades, the main characteristics of American foreign policy in the Middle East have remained surprisingly constant despite the frequent change in administrations. At heart, the American attitude towards our region is rooted in the 'Eisenhower Doctrine' whose thesis remains the main preoccupation of American policy-makers.

The overriding concern is a function of world power politics rather than the analysis of the political dynamics inherent in the Arab-Israeli dispute. The primary motive of American policy-makers has always been the containment of Soviet Communist encroachment in the Middle East. The American perception is that the Soviets are intent on world domination and therefore the vital strategic position and resources of our region must be protected from Communist expansion.

However, they seek to achieve that objective by ensuring the collaboration of all the states in the region irrespective of the nature of the relationship they enjoy with each other. While the overall aim is collectivist and comprehensive, the approach is often not. The United States frequently deals with the states of the region in a bilateral manner, a method which has been formalized in the so-called multi-track approach that has become so familiar. As a result, though pursuing a single aim, the United States has had to adopt many different facets of the same policy to achieve it.

The anomaly of considering the region as one unit, but dealing with its constituent member states differently and separately, does not seem to worry American policy-makers despite the many difficulties thus incurred.

Needless to say, the Eisenhower Doctrine was followed by Nixon's, Carter's and then the Haig-Reagan concept of 'Strategic Consensus'. These doctrines — I prefer to call them statements of policy objectives — have invariably glossed over the significance of the Arab-Israeli dispute in determining the international alignment of the Arab states, concentrating, instead on measures to check the Soviet threat to the region.

Oblivious to the sense of injustice and outrage felt by the Arabs in the wake of Israel's creation and the subsequent wars which have compounded the original grievance, the US has called on the Arabs to deal with the Jewish state as an Arab partner despite the prevailing state of war between them.



His Royal Highness Prince Hassan at the opening of the conference on Tuesday. On his right is Dr Sa'adiddin Ibrahim, Secretary General of the Arab Thought Forum

'Time does not stand still', Prince Hassan

The Arab Thought Forum and the American Enterprise Institute Conference ended Wednesday in Amman. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan in a keynote address at the conference Tuesday, called for the preservation of the Arab identity of the people under occupation and the protection of the status of their territory pending a settlement which as he put it, require immediate attention. Following is the full text of the Crown Prince's address.

Between them. With the inevitable variation in the ideological affiliations of the Arab states, the identification of Arab moderate and conservative states as tacit friends and allies of Israel by the United States has served but one purpose: the aggravation of inter-Arab disputes and rivalries.

Nothing could have been better calculated to intensify inter-Arab differences than Alexander Haig's concept of strategic consensus which was preceded by Zbigniew Brzezinski's notion of 'consultative security framework' for the Middle East. It is somewhat incomprehensible to us that following the dissensions in Arab ranks caused by the Camp David accords; and while Egypt and Lebanon were in turmoil and Begin's Israel was planning Sharon's war against the Palestinians, Haig should seek simultaneously the collaboration of the US, Israel, and the Arab states to counter Soviet expansionism in the region. Haig's attitude was all the more difficult to comprehend in that an American Secretary of State was attempting to revive a doctrine — the Eisenhower Doctrine — some thirty years after it was first introduced.

Time of course does not stand still. No one knows that better than the Arabs. Since the Great Arab revolt, we in particular, have been called upon to recognize the political realities of our world, hard and unpalatable as they may be. Today, the Arabs are fully conscious of the American commitment to the existence and security of the state of Israel, but time has not enabled us to afford a similar commitment, mainly because of the policies and attitudes of Israel itself.

Time moreover, has been extremely harsh with the Palestinians. The price they have had to pay for waiting for a solution to

their problem is enormous and may not be possible to compensate. In their steadfastness, the Palestinian Arabs have been condemned to suffer the indignities of homelessness, rootlessness, poverty, disease, and oppression. Their discontent and sense of grievance has become a breeding ground for radical politics compelling some, in the absence of a just and lasting settlement, towards nihilistic manifestations of wanton terror. Meanwhile, Israel has made an excellent use of the time available to compound their misery.

His Majesty King Hussein put this to the emergency Arab Summit Conference held at Casablanca in August 1985: "To Israel, time has not been a dormant factor in the no-peace and no-war situation prevailing since the October war of 1973. The pattern has been one of progress in the achievement of Zionist objectives." It has allowed Israel to expropriate more than 52 per cent of total lands, to orchestrate the depopulation of the economy in the occupied territories, to seize control of natural resources, particularly water, and to announce the formal annexation of East (Arab) Jerusalem and the Syrian Golan Heights.

Above all, it has enabled the Israeli authorities to continue undermining the peace process, a fact evidenced by the recent intensification of repressive measures against the civilian population under military occupation. The policies of Israel offer constant source of frustration and encouragement to the Arab rejectionists of a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

Despite the prevailing deadlock which characterizes all the Middle East conflicts: The Palestine question, the crisis in Lebanon, and the war in the Gulf, Jordan has undergone a major transformation as regards its attitude, policy, and outlook. Relying on its own comprehension of the present realities, past experiences, and on the accumulated wisdom and foresight of its political leadership, Jordan has charted a new and relevant course for practical approaches to peace, stability, and development.

It is no secret that we have been saddened and appalled by the paralysis which has dominated inter-Arab politics as result of the dissensions in Arab ranks. We have done our utmost to reconcile differences and revive a semblance of Arab consensus so that constructive and positive moves may be taken on a pan-Arab scale in the service of regional peace. We are heartened and gratified by the general response. Our attempts have yielded some excellent results to encourage us to continue our effort towards inter-Arab reconciliation.

Jordan's Concern

Jordan's abiding concern is the beleaguered indigenous Arab population under Israeli military occupation since 1967. Their corporate identity has been continuously undermined by creeping Israeli annexation, while the status of their territory as 'occupied', under the provisions of international law has been constantly eroded. The consequences of continuing to deny the people of Palestine the aggregate of their human rights, including the right to self-determination, will be disastrous. With reference to Israel's policy of incorporating the West Bank into the concept of 'Eretz Israel', Menachem Begin, the former deputy mayor of Jerusalem, who has made a detailed study of developments in the occupied territories, notes that the "critical point has passed". He warns ominously that all the indications point towards the eventual introduction of an apartheid regime, reminiscent of that in South Africa — with the virtual enslavement of the Arab population.

The preservation of the Arab identity of the people under occupation and the protection of the status of their territory, pending a settlement, require immediate attention. Action is called for to avert a situation which would only compound the present crisis. The people of historic Palestine, both Arabs and Jews, must not be condemned to living under unequal systems of government, signifying that future generations will have to endure the prospect of perpetual war and conflict.

It is these alarming prospects which spur Jordan on in its efforts to achieve peace and stability in a region where extremists on both the Arab and Israeli sides are determined to maintain hostile postures. The absence of a peaceful settlement of the long-standing Palestine question has provided affirmation for the prophets of doom that the current moves are a futile exercise which ought to be abandoned.

Advocates of Israel's questionable claims for security requirements insist that Arabs should concede these prior to any negotiations. Conversely, Arab doubters of the usefulness of peace negotiations seize upon Israeli intransigence to reinforce their case against the peace process.

The result is a vicious circle in which Israeli and Arab extremists create a symbiosis where the former's territorial claims constantly feed and fuel the latter's rejectionism. The casualty is peace and the end result near anarchy — a breeding-ground for extremism. Virtual anarchy has been the scourge of Lebanon for more than ten years. It has spawned diverse and divergent organizations whose expressed profession is violence and terror. Today, the people of Lebanon beckons others: yet Jordan is determined to call a halt to the fragmentation and disintegration threatening Arab society under the onslaught of political fundamentalism various shades and different affiliations.

Inter-Arab Co-ordination

Jordan has not been daunted by the task at hand. Our endeavours are directed towards the reinforcement of the peace constituency in Arab politics. In a bid to restore Egypt to the Arab fold, diplomatic relations with Egypt have been re-established, and Jordan is co-operating closely with the Egyptian Political leadership to keep the peace process open and viable. The reconciliation between Egypt and the Palestine Liberation Organization received Jordanian encouragement and endorsement. Our fresh start at inter-Arab co-ordination and co-operation requires both Arab and international support for political moderation in the Middle East is becoming increasingly difficult to sustain. The moderate states in the region must stand together as a bulwark against extremist radical tendencies.

This is not a call for polarization in inter-Arab politics between moderate and radical stands, but an earnest plea for the adoption of sane and realistic policies that can further the current pace of development, maintain the stability of our society in a rapidly changing world, and ensure the security of our area.

In pursuance of the same goal, under the auspices of the Arab League and through the good offices of Saudi Arabia and Tunisia, the prime ministers of both Jordan and Syria have held candid and open talks reviewing the relationship between the two countries in a spirit characterised by candour, fraternity and a determination to resolve past differences for the sake of the higher Arab interest.

The two countries have reaffirmed their commitment to all Arab Summit resolutions on which Arab consensus was attained and have resolved to adhere to the Arab plan, adopted at the 1982 Fez Summit, for the negotiation of a comprehensive Middle East peace in the context of an international peace conference, held under UN auspices and attended by all the parties. Jordan and Syria are also in agreement that partial and unilateral peace with Israel must be rejected unequivocally and they have reiterated their commitment to a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute in all its aspects.

Consultations with the Syrian political leadership continue and it is hoped that the Jordanian-Palestinian Accord of 11 February will provide a working formula for a united Arab platform so that all the parties concerned may move forward in union towards an overall settlement that can terminate the Arab-Israeli conflict once and for all by providing a just and lasting solution to the Palestinian question.

Nuclear threat

I am, as most of you would know by now, no doomsday prophet; but at the same time you do not need me to tell you why the world has a healthy and understandable preoccupation with the nuclear arms race, in terms of proliferation and disarmament. It is a subject which has dominated the attention of the superpowers and the international community of nations to the exclusion of many other important problems and issues. What I want to point out is that the Middle East is neither immune nor isolated from the threat of a nuclear conflagration. Nuclear weapons are already in the Middle East. The US maintains a nuclear presence in Turkey and aboard nuclear-armed submarines in and around the waters of the region. More significantly, Israel has both a sizeable nuclear capability and is known to deploy nuclear missiles. Its nuclear programme has

benefitted from the direct and indirect support of nuclear and near-nuclear powers, including South-Africa. Moreover, the development and the proliferation of mass destruction weapons are as hazardous to man's future and the region's security as are nuclear weapons, perhaps even more so, since these weapons can be more readily accessible and more easily produced.

The possibilities of regional conflict, miscalculations leading to a US-Soviet confrontation, or terrorist operations triggering off a nuclear war make the Arab-Israeli dispute probably the most serious flash-point in the world today. Such an eventuality is conceivable either on the basis of a conventional armed conflict escalating into a nuclear exchange or a nuclear first strike by a small country on account of a perceived threat to its national security. In either case, it is unlikely that the conflict could be contained within regional limits. For decades the possibility of a nuclear exchange has been envisaged in the Middle Eastern context.

The risks entailed in these potent factors are incalculable. Retaliation and retribution become irrelevant. Nothing would save the region from the nuclear abyss that threatens to engulf the whole of mankind. It is for these reasons too that Jordan will persist in its quest for peace.

We call on all other nations, especially the two superpowers, to look for new ways, explore fresh avenues and experiment with novel procedures to push the peace process forward; we cannot afford to fail. This may require that certain positions and long-standing attitudes, as well as established policies be re-examined and reassessed in the light of current developments. Shifts and changes, in some cases radical and unpalatable, may have to be introduced. Not only on the part of the local powers, but across the board, particularly as regards the two superpowers.

Jordan has been encouraged by the overall international reaction to its moves to revive the peace process, especially by the positive evolution of the European position towards greater even-handedness. Member states of the European Economic Community have openly and collectively acknowledged that the essence of the conflict in this region is the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

As early as 1980 the Venice Declaration addressed this core issue without equivocation by stating that "The Palestinian people, who are conscious of existing as such, must be placed in a position, by appropriate process defined within the framework of the comprehensive peace settlement, to exercise fully their rights to self-determination." The European position was reaffirmed still more forcefully in March of this year (1985). We believe it is high time the US made a similar gesture towards the Palestinian people to inject a fresh impetus in the peace process.

UN resolutions 242 and 338, to which HM King Hussein has reiterated our unreserved adherence in his recent UN address, provide a sound and practical machinery for peace-making in the Middle East. Their provisions call for the engagement of international fora in the conduct of peace negotiations. Resolution 242 led to the dispatch of the Jarring mission to implement its provisions on behalf of the UN Security Council. 338 was more specific in that it called for negotiations to be conducted between "the parties concerned under appropriate auspices aimed at establishing a just and durable peace in the Middle East". The adoption of the latter resolution was followed by the convocation of the Geneva Middle East Peace

Conference under the joint chairmanship of the US and the USSR. Significantly, the question of direct negotiations arises with reference to neither text nor procedure.

Today we have to recognize that the Camp David Accords have run their full course, and the results in terms of an overall settlement of the Palestine question are far from satisfactory. The convocation of an international peace conference is an essential measure, not only because it would give international legitimacy to the peace process, but because it is the only umbrella under which direct negotiations can take place for a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute as called for by UN resolutions 242 and 338.

In addition to the mobilisation of the UN machinery, the two superpowers could assume a more activist approach to regional conflicts in the Middle East. Mere statements of foreign policy objectives are no substitute for coherent and comprehensive diplomacy. The aim should not be the imposition of a settlement, but the manipulation of the levers of influence to induce constructive results. The objective must be to ease tension so that normal peaceful means of conflict resolution can be pursued. The imposition of conditions on the sale of arms is rarely conducive to the peace process. Indeed, it may have serious adverse military and political implications in the future, particularly as regards the Gulf region.

The US in particular, is called upon to resist domestic pressures that may adversely influence the direction of its foreign policy and

adopt a more activist approach to peace-making. Measures are required from the American administration that can create momentum to propel the states of the Middle East, the machinery of foreign policy making, and the American public, into moves that can sustain and nourish recent developments.

The Palestine question remains the most complex obstacle to peace and stability in the Middle East. Unresolved, it is capable of touching off an upsurge in fundamentalist fanaticism whose immediate goal is the destruction of the established order throughout the region. Rightly or wrongly, failure to provide an appropriate settlement is generally attributed to America's consistent identification with Israel. Their bilateral relationship embodied in a 'strategic alliance' has brought about the kind of dependence which stunts the peace process as it constantly seeks to inhibit the growth of the desired middle ground in both American and Israeli politics. A more comprehensive and balanced approach to the problem would undoubtedly restore confidence and open the door for better relations, while the continuation of the present deadlocked situation will lead to greater alienation and further radicalization.

It has become abundantly clear that bilateral approaches to the problems of the Middle East are not satisfactory. They must be replaced by definitive and practical schemes to ease tension and resolve conflict. We are fully conscious of the fact that the line of seismic politics running from the Black Sea in the west, to the Caspian Sea in the east has dropped southward to extend from the Gulf, in the east, and westward, to

the East Mediterranean-Red Sea basin. This conflict ridden area: Palestine, Lebanon, Iraq and Iran; to which may be added the famine-ravaged countries of Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda and Chad, has become the soft underbelly of superpower confrontation, threatened by potent social, economic, as well as political factors that may bring about the complete collapse of the present state structures.

It is evident that world security can only be enhanced in the long run by regional stability. The importance of bilateral relations cannot substitute for regional co-operation and collaboration. The geo-political reality of the Middle East and the economic and cultural interdependence which has evolved in our relations with the west as a result of our long historical interaction should contribute to mutual understanding and benefits. It is imperative that the superpowers take into account the fact that peace in our troubled region is the only insurance against instability and the continuous fanning of the flames of war.

Clearly we have to work with concepts of rational exploitation of our shared material and human resources for the well-being of all. Our political exchanges must give birth to policies related to human needs and requirements and should not be simply profit-oriented, enriching the few. Trade and commerce are all well and good, but they should be complemented by the promotion of ikemindedness among different groupings, as well as nations, leading to clear and positive action for the common good which is the sole road to human progress and prosperity.

What the participants said

By Kathy Kakish
Special to The Star

Kamel Abu Jaber of the University of Jordan attended for the Arab side. The dialogue aimed at exchanging knowledge and creating understanding between Jordan and the Arab world and the rest of the world in general. The Secretary General of the Arab Thought Forum Dr Sa'adiddin

Ibrahim said that the first Arab-American dialogue was held in 1983 in the aftermath of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. He said America was heavily involved in that invasion either by passive agreement and support for Israel or by sending its own marines to Lebanon as part of the Multinational Force.

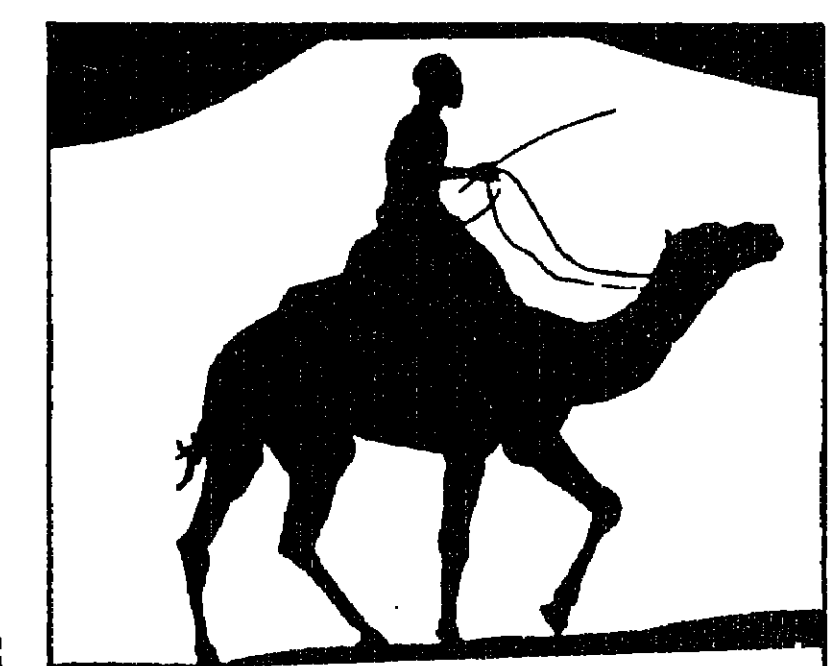
AMMAN — Three comprehensive papers were presented by the American side during the conference. Dr Robert Gilpin of the Princeton University presented a paper entitled "A return to inter-civilization conflict or a world order of inter-dependent civilization." Dr Robert Pranger vice-president of the American Enterprise Institute spoke on the 'Dimension of American foreign policy.'

His contention was that the belief that two superpowers have dominated the world is coming to an end — this implies that in the next two decades we might witness a new trend in international relations. This will be based on multipolar or a more pluralistic arrangement in international relations. The question is whether it will be a pluralistic idea hidden with conflict or one with a spirit of cooperation and interdependence. The best and safer one is the latter.

Dr Pranger pointed out that America has been entangled in a Middle East policy that is not entirely of its own making, but to a great extent that of Israel.

Dr Harold Saunders a former US Assistant Secretary of State in a paper dealt with the historical perspective in which America as a superpower has to be reviewed. Dr Saunders talked about the mechanism and the skills that must go in the negotiations for settlement between the conflicting parties.

Each paper presented was commented on by one Arab counterpart at the conference. Dr Jawad Al Anani a former minister and Dr Afad Abdul Rahman of the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation and Dr



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The story behind the 'Wise men from the east'

By Hussein Shehadeh

"AND WHEN they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary, his mother, and fell down and worshipped Him: And when they had opened their treasures, they presented Him with gifts: gold, and frankincense, and myrrh."

The story has fascinated children and adults for many generations. Three kings, seen in their imagination in wonderful attire, riding on camels through a starlight night. On their way from 1001 Nights to the crib in Bethlehem bringing with them exotic gifts, drawn by divinely inspired wisdom, led by a star...

If we scrutinize these childhood fantasies: Where did those three divine kings actually come from? What are frankincense and myrrh actually made from? What were they used for?

It was, by the way, no coincidence that it was gold, frankincense and myrrh they brought with them to the child Jesus. They were the most prized gifts of ancient times. In later times these three things were given symbolic meaning. The gold was to represent the royal dignity of Jesus, frankincense his divinity and the myrrh — the word comes from the Arabic, where it means 'bitter' — his persecution and subsequent death.

Frankincense and Myrrh

One can draw a parallel between frankincense and myrrh and modern perfume, but as we shall see, these aromatic substances also had several magic qualities. Myrrh is made from the juice of a cactus-like bush with the Latin name of Commiphora. It grows, just the same as the frankincense mentioned in the story of the Three Wise Men, in Southern Arabia.

The term incense covers a multitude of different substances, which only have in common the fact that they are fragrant and are burned in a thurible. Incense has been used throughout history in religious ceremonies the world over.

Sacrifice

The first documented example of the use of incense dates back to the Egypt of 2800 BC. The Pharaohs used incense as a sacrifice to the gods. On pictures from that period one can see the king standing in front of the statue of a god with a thurible in his hand. He is almost certainly asking a favour of the gods.

The Sumerians of Mesopotamia, and later the Babylonians, also burned incense to appease the gods, and Assyrian sculptures from Nimveh show incense being burned for the sun god. Grave finds in India dating from the 3rd century BC also show traces of incense. On the other side of the world, in Mexico, the Mayas also used incense as a sacrifice.

Jewish high priests, who believed that God was sometimes present in the Holy Tabernacle, used incense to hide his presence from profane eyes. They also used it as a sacrifice, however. This is what it says in Exodus:

"And the Lord said unto Moses, Take unto thee sweet spices, stacte, and onycha, and galbanum, these sweet spices with frankincense: of each there shall be like weight."

Here God is obviously asking Moses to make him a sacrifice, and to further emphasize the divinity of the mixture, he adds:



A young Omani burns frankincense.

Whosoever shall make like unto that, to smell thereto, shall even be cut off from his people."

The Greeks and the Romans also burned a lot of incense as sacrifices in their temples. This custom was later adopted by the Christians, and incense is used to this day in both the Greek Orthodox and the Catholic church.

Incense is no longer used in Islamic rituals, but on the other hand it is said that the Prophet Muhammad never declined a gift of incense.

The fragrance of incense, and the way its smoke rises slowly skywards, has made incense a natural physical expression of prayer. Incense has no intoxicating or narcotic qualities. People have quite simply wanted to express their prayers in physical terms, in the same way as one does when kneeling.

Medicine

In ancient times, holy and ritual objects were often credited with healing qualities. It is therefore not surprising that incense has been widely used medicinally. The Roman doctor Celsus writes in a text book of the effectiveness of incense for chest pains, paralysis, growths, wounds, hemorrhoids, etc. Cato claimed that it was effective against intestinal worms found in livestock.

The Indians have used incense as a cure for, among other things, infections and to induce menstruation. In China it was believed that incense could cure leprosy, and in Southern Arabia it is still used to cleanse drinking water. Arab women used incense to chase away evil spirits from new-born babies.

Cremation

It was quite normal in ancient times, and is still common in some parts of the world today, to cremate bodies on an open fire. The smell of burned flesh must be repulsive, so it is no surprise that incense was used in large quantities to conceal the smell. It is said that Emperor Nero burned tremendous quantities at the funeral pile of his wife, Poppaea. Incense was, of course, a very expensive commodity, the finest being worth its weight in gold. Its wasteful use at cremation ceremonies led the Roman author Plinius to make the following bitter comment: "The ri-

fragrance with them, than the fact that it is perfume.

At markets in South Arabia one can find pyramid-shaped frames which are used to perfume clothing. They are laid on top and incense is burned underneath.

The finest incense

It has been agreed since ancient times that the finest incense, frankincense, came from the Dhofar province of Southern Oman. The Italian traveller Marco Polo, who visited Dhofar in about 1285, referred to it as white, and described its fine qualities.

The white frankincense is dried resin from a tree with the Latin name of 'Boswellia Carterii'. The tree is only found in Dhofar, Southern Arabia and North-East Africa. There are three different species of the tree, but the finest grows only in Dhofar.

The tree grows some 3-4 metres high, and although it grows in the wild, cultivation elsewhere has been unsuccessful. The latter is maybe due to the specially suitable climate of Dhofar. Rain falls in the summer months, brought by monsoon winds from India. As we shall see later, these monsoon winds have also been vital to the export of incense by sea.

The harvest

The incense was usually harvested in the spring, so that the sailing ships could sail before the monsoon winds set in in June. The resin was harvested by cutting 3-4 mm deep slits in the tree. Within a few minutes a sticky white substance appeared, which was not used because of its poor quality. It was not until 4 or 5 days later that the valuable resin lumps appeared. They were laid out to dry and made ready for export.

Chosen families were given the distinguished job of collecting the lumps of frankincense. Almost anti-septic conditions were necessary, as the 'uninfected' frankincense was used for religious purposes.

Frankincense was collected in the greatest secrecy, and it was claimed that winged snakes guarded the trees and spat fire on those who came unlawfully in their vicinity. Although this myth was used to keep away intruders, it is not entirely false. In this area there are poisonous snakes which can jump up at their victims, and it was normal to burn fires during the harvest to keep these snakes at bay.

Shipping

When the lumps of incense were ready, they were taken to the port of Samhram, or Moscha, as the Greeks and Romans called it. As legend would have it, it was in this town that the three Wise Men met. An unknown first century seafarer gave this description of the town:

"This is where the incense is received from the mountains, and there are many ships in the harbour. Seafarers make deals with the king's officers, and exchange cloth, wheat and sesame oil for incense, which lies about in piles, quite unattended, as though protected by the gods."

Samhram, or Moscha, was founded by Miaz Yaut in the first century BC. The town lay by a natural harbour, which was sheltered from wind and currents, which can be very strong on the Dhofar coast, so the place was ideally suited to the loading of frankincense.

Another factor was that the Omanis had, at much earlier point in their history, understood how to

utilize the monsoon winds. In early ancient times they had sailed to Persia and India, and in 780 an Omani ship reached China with a load of frankincense. This was the start of lively trade, which continued for many hundreds of years. Chan Fu Kan, who was foreign trade commissioner in Fu Kien, writes in his report for the year 1252:

"Ju-Jiang (frankincense) comes from three countries: Malopa (now South Yemen), Shi-lo (Shir) and Nu-fa (Dhofar)."

We also know, for example, that 180 kilos of frankincense was imported into Canton in 1077.

Large amounts of frankincense had actually been exported from Dhofar before the foundation of Samhram, or Moscha, to among other places Babylon, Assyria, Egypt, Palestine, Greece and Rome.

The importance of Dhofar's frankincense trade are also shown by the fact that Alexander the Great had plans to conquer the region. They were never realised because of his early death in 323 BC. When he was in Gaza, he sent a small portion of frankincense home to the high priest in Athens, with instructions to use it sparingly until he had been in Ophir, the biblical name for Dhofar.

It is also possible that Dhofar was part of the realm of the Queen of Sheba. If this was so, it would have been very nice for her lover, King Solomon, who was very fond of incense. It says in the Song of Solomon:

"Who is this that cometh out of the wilderness like pillars of smoke, perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, with all the powders of the merchant? Behold his bed which is Solomon's..."

The caravan routes

Let us return to the tale of the Three Wise Men. One imagines them dressed in beautiful clothes, riding majestically through the starlight night, without a care in the world. If there is any truth in the legend of them coming from Dhofar, they can hardly have looked very well kempt and well dressed, let alone as handsome, old, grey-bearded men at the crib in Bethlehem.

It has been estimated that the trip from Dhofar to Palestine would have taken an experienced camel-rider some 70-90 days. We tend to forget that Saudi Arabia, across which they would have had to trek, is as big as Western Europe.

And there is more. The caravan routes traversed regions characterized by continuous struggles between the various bedouin tribes. The journey was also one of the most merciless in the world, baking heat during the day, freezing cold at night, ravaged by ever-lasting sand storms. For long periods the travellers would have to live on dried dates, dried yoghurt and a little flour and water which was often brackish.

These caravans, and others which carried spices through Arabia, still managed to create wealth, but not only for Southern Arabia, but also in the kingdoms and towns which lay in, and to the North of the desert. This is how the towns of Mekka and Medina grew up, as resting places for the camel caravans. The same is true of the city of Petra.

Petra was the capital of the Nabataeans. They were an Arab people who controlled the desert regions between Arabia and the Mediterranean, around the time of

Continued on page 3



Young Maasai warriors braid each other's ochred hair into elaborate styles

By Jeni Anindo

ENGORIKA, Kenya — The young Maasai warrior fights, writhes and moans in ritualistic despair as his stern-faced mother expertly shaves off his long ochred hair.

His head cropped, the young man's frenzy gradually subsides, and he stands ready for his new role — a junior elder.

Last August, at Engorika in the Kajiado district of southern Kenya, a group of Maasai held what could be one of the last Eunoto ceremonies, when young men graduate from warriorhood to the beginning of conformity.

Although the wandering of Maasai people, notable for their slender physique and indifference to modern ways, have been holding such ceremonies throughout their remembered history, their rituals now are coming under increasing pressure from development-minded governments.

Anthropologists believe the Maasais' very existence is threatened by the economic and "civilising" pressures of modern African society, while tourists look on them as admirable but quaint survivors from the African past.

One of the Maasais' own best qualities — self-sufficiency — could become their enemy because, as one expert said, "they don't know how to get help from the government."

By John Collier

DENHAM, Australia — The only place in the world where human beings and dolphins play and swim together in regular voluntary contact outside of captivity is along a stretch of beach in Western Australia.

It's 530 miles (855 km) north of the state capital, Perth, near this fishing village on the shores of Shark Bay.

The beach itself is named Monkey Mia after the schooner Monkey carrying explorers who anchored there in 1834 (mia means "home" in the local aboriginal dialect). Whether the schooner's crew made the first contact with dolphins there is not recorded, but for many years the dolphins have come close to the beach and swum among bathers.

In recent years, more than a dozen of them have been coming to the water's edge almost daily to mix with people, allowing children

From warrior to elder

They lost half their lands under British rule, and independent Kenya's government has absorbed a third of the Maasai Reserve lands to make way for new game parks and towns.

The Maasai — nomadic cattle-herders throughout Kenya and Tanzania — sold another third of their land because of drought and cattle disease.

A Maasai warrior — known as a moran — is a young man who has undergone ritual circumcision. The rituals, which have taken place about every five years in the past, involve youths aged between 16 and 21.

As moran they spend five years living together in a manyatta, a group of huts surrounded by a thorn fence, isolated from their families and friends.

It is during this time they take part in the famed lion hunt, which is the highlight of being a moran. The killing of a lion symbolises power and superiority.

The young men usually hunt in a group, but the one who kills the lion will have a special place in society. In the past there was usually five to seven years before moran were initiated into junior eldership, but due to government pressure the present ceremonies

are taking place after only two years.

Thus the moran who took part in the three-day Eunoto ceremony at Engorika were on the whole younger than usual. The ceremony was timed to start four days after the new moon when the nights are bright.

Nine young men — chosen as the first initiates — were taken by force. None surrendered calmly, kicking and shouting as they were pinned to the ground by several adults with a child placed on the legs.

The moran were in a state of ecstasy, moaning and struggling as their long red locks were cut away. Then, each with a thin white stick to replace their spears, they gradually assembled to dance, while others underwent the dramatic transition process.

Eunoto is as much a high point for mothers as it is for the moran. When her son becomes a moran, a mother is seen as a success for bringing him to this point; when he becomes a junior elder she gains even more status.

In a year her son will marry, and his wife will do most of the work for the household. It marks the beginning of a whole new period for a woman; she now has some



Warriors dancing at the head-shaving ritual at Engonika, Kenya

Some people in Kenya use the Maasai as scapegoats — when a cow disappears, it has been "taken by the Maasai." If a child is dirty, he or she will be told, "You smell like a Maasai."

In some circles they are both feared for their legendary courage and derided for their "primitive ways." In fact, Maasai traditions are part of a self-contained, non-accidental culture which has never needed the trappings of Western civilisation.

The Maasai have attracted a mystique which never attached itself to other African people. There is a belief the tribe did not originate in sub-Saharan Africa but further north, wandering south along the Nile valley into Kenya in the 15th century.

One story even suggests the Maasai are a lost Roman legion, noting the similarity of one of their principal weapons to the short Roman sword.

The rush of the present Eunoto ceremonies could cause fragmentation of the age-set system, sociologists believe. Speeding up the age-old rituals can only lead to disintegration of the traditions.

Authorities believe this is best, but the boys may feel cheated if they cannot enter manhood in the old way.

Jeni Anindo is a Nairobi-based writer.

The dolphin's playground



A beach in Western Australia is about the only place outside of a dolphinarium or a marina where dolphins regularly swim and frolic in the surf with humans.

to hand-feed them and stroke them.

In deeper water, they frolic with swimmers and give every evidence of enjoying the company of their human playmates.

Individual dolphins are recognised for their distinct, almost human personalities by regular visitors, especially children, from Shark Bay settlement, who give them such names as Holey Fin, Half-Fin and Spike.

Getting to Denham and along to Monkey Mia beach from the highway has never been easy. The track is dusty, corrugated and pot-holed. Plans are ready, however, for it to be upgraded and sealed.

Local people welcome the prospect of the sealed road, and the

state Tourism Commission sees it as a boon for tourists. But every one recognises it could threaten the dolphins.

A public appeal has thus been launched for \$308,000 to establish an information centre at the beach and implement a management programme drawn up on recommendations by Professor Robert Wyburn, of Murdoch University's Department of Veterinary Studies, and Rod Abel, of International Oceanaria Development Company.

These two men believe increasing numbers of people need not have an adverse effect on the dolphins of Monkey Mia, providing there is a degree of supervision and the means of educating visitors.

John Collier is a journalist based in Perth.

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Arab-American Dialogue

THE ARAB-AMERICAN dialogue which took place in Amman this week no doubt opened a number of avenues for those who seek to come out with a better understanding of Arab-American relations especially where the future of this region is concerned.

What concerns us is the effect of such understanding and future outlook will be on policy makers in both sides of the fence. American involvement in this region has been increasing in the past decade and the interests of the United States will no doubt grow in the Middle East for the years to come. Dialogue on the intellectual level will, theoretically at least, help to draw a picture of how US-Arab relations will function in the coming years. But the real picture, we fear, will not be based on what brilliant-minded men and women discuss in their meetings, but on the direction unilateral American interests will move.

We have faith in the scientific approach of the parties involved in such dialogue and it is our sincere hope that their wise vision will be delivered to those who have the power and control the running of things. However, we too have evidence from the past decade to deliver us to one undisputed conclusion that American interests in the Middle East conflict with those of the peoples of this area. For one, US-Arab relations will always be marred by America's unequivocal siding with Israel at the expense of Palestinian rights in particular and Arab rights in general.

Open and sincere dialogue with the policy makers in the United States has not helped in creating a better outlook of future US actions. In short, the Arabs of today are hostile in their view of the US role in the Middle East, they are doubtful of the so-called US search for peace in the region, they are sceptical of any future change for the better and above all they see no difference between Israeli strategies in the region and those of the United States.

In fact, without a current change in official US policy in the Middle East, the whole future of US-Arab relations looks indeed a grim one. One should also remember that politics is dynamic and that Arab views on the United States could at any moment materialize to affect Arab policies towards the United States. We are already seeing many countries in the region moving away from the US orbit in the attempt to disengage from the perils of polarization and dependency. The Arab side in the US-Arab equation has been taken for granted. There is no doubt that the continuous US departure from common understanding of Arab feelings and position especially where it concerns the Arab-Israeli conflict will in the end inflict heavy losses on the perpetrators of better US-Arab understanding.

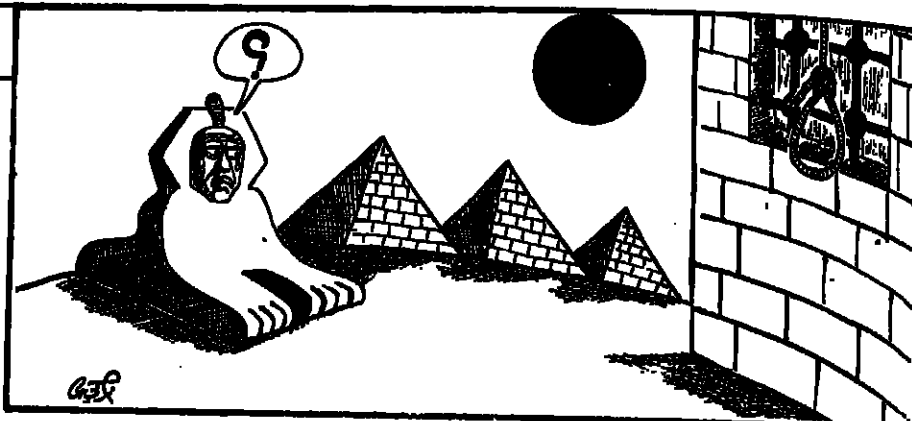
Countering terrorism

WHILE TERRORIST attacks on innocent civilians deserve strong condemnation, retaliation for that on someone purely on assumption is nothing but a demented action. President Reagan exercising his special powers imposed economic sanctions on Libya and called for similar action by his allies, the industrialized Western world.

Fully aware of the negative impact it could make on their economies, certain European countries have rejected the idea while others are seriously considering the issue. It is very much unlikely while considering the past experience, the economic sanctions could prove to be an effective weapon.

Whatever it may be, the emotional action of the American president is much more induced by his personal hatred for Colonel Qadhafi rather than his sincere desire to eradicate terrorism in the world. Qadhafi's close relations with the Communist Soviet Union and his open accusation of Reagan and the US for its imperialistic policies and parochial diplomacy in the West Asia have been irking Washington for a long time and therefore, they may not like to miss this opportunity to strike at Libya.

Also on the pretext of a retaliation to liquidate the so called terrorist bases in Libya, the big brother and his Middle-East satellite might attack the Libyan missile batteries deployed recently, as it poses a threat to the US reconnaissance of the Gulf of Sidra. However, the United Arab and Islamic responses to the US-Israeli threat has to some extent alleviated the tension, but it still cannot be ruled out as the enemies of the Arab nation are engaged in cooking up something in secret.



Lobbying for American understanding

By Katherine Kennedy

NEW YORK — Mohammed T. Mehdi is a lobbyist who doesn't believe in lobbying, at least not in the classical sense. He thinks the way to influence the powers in Washington DC is through the American people, not politicians.

His aim is not to secure more material support for his cause — Palestine — but to aid and to the Middle East. He wishes Arab governments would realise the key to dealing with Israel lies in the United States, at the grass-roots level.

"Lobbying is a waste of time," Mehdi said in an interview. "Once you reach people, they will be able to reach Congress."

The Iraqi-born Mehdi, a bearded, gregarious man and a specialist in American constitutional law, carries out a highly visible role at a time and in a political area of increased tension.

The Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, William H. Webster, warned recently that Arab-Americans had entered a "zone of danger," and were targets of violence by a group acting against those it saw as "enemies of Israel."

There have been five terrorist attacks this year including two bombings of Arab-American groups, one of which killed Palestinian-born Alex Odeh.

Mehdi is president of the American-Arab Relations Committee, which he founded in 1984 in New York City.

Explaining his grass-roots tactics, Mehdi said, "We reach about 1,000 dedicated persons, and each one of them is committed to reach one or two people a week."

Committee members are educated people like physicians and lawyers. They are working on an outreach programme to consolidate an Arab or Muslim vote.

Nothing Jewish success in establishing alliances with other groups, Mehdi wants to reach Americans of black, Greek, Hispanic and Irish backgrounds. "Once we reach them, the whole political background is changed," he said.

Mehdi believes Americans support Israel from lack of knowledge of Arabs, guilt over the holocaust, and in some cases through anti-Semitism.

Jerry Falwell, an ultra-conservative clergyman, supports Israel as a Jewish homeland because he is a reactionary racist who wants to get Jews out of America, Mehdi said. Mehdi frequently appears on television and writes letters to newspapers to expound his views. He tries "to interpret Arab events for American people and explain American institutions to the Arab world."

In a recent wave of violence against Arab-Americans, a bomb exploded in the offices of the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) in Santa Ana, California, October 11. It demolished the office and killed regional director Odeh.

The FBI considered the Jewish Defence League (JDL) the "possible responsible group." The national headquarters of the ADC in Washington, DC, was damaged in a suspicious blaze November 28.

Mehdi said, "Odeh had appeared the night before and spoke in terms that (PLO Chairman) Yasser Arafat was a man of peace and hoped for his home and to secure the right of his people."

This television appearance may have triggered the violence, although Odeh was a civilized man who never supported violence, Mehdi said.

The bombing followed the sensational seizure by Palestinian gunmen of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro and the death of a



MOHAMMAD T. MEHDI

crippled elderly American passenger, Leon Klinghoffer.)

Mehdi sent President Reagan a telegram suggesting the president should receive Mrs Odeh to offer his condolences as he had Mrs Klinghoffer after her husband's death on the Achille Lauro.

Larry Speakes, a White House spokesman, said Reagan was aware of the telegram but had no plans to receive Mrs Odeh.

Mehdi went to Mrs Klinghoffer's house with flowers and a delegation to present condolences, but she did not respond and he left the flowers at the house.

Mehdi is required to sit stiffly in an upright chair as a result of a broken back he suffered in an attack on his office in 1974.

Born in Baghdad, he secured a doctorate in political science from the University of California at Berkeley.

He taught American constitutional law there for two years in the early 1980s, then moved to New York. His New York office was burned in June 1974 by what he calls "Zionist hoodlums" after several previous attacks on members and property of the organisation.

He said that since Rabbi Meir Kahane moved to Israel in 1972 violence had decreased. He places responsibility for West Coast violence on the doorstep of Irvin Rubin, current leader of the JDL in Los Angeles.

Mehdi said he still gets threatening phone calls, usually obscene. He reports death threats to the police "for the record." If Washington ends military aid in the Middle East, he believes, Israel will recognise it has to make peace with Palestinians. "The road to Jerusalem starts in Washington, DC, via the American people," he said.

Mehdi criticised the Arab countries for their failure to see that influencing the United States was the key to dealing with Israel. He said, "The Jews have no right to occupy Palestine, because then the Palestinian has the duty to make room for the Jew from Brooklyn."

In a letter to a New York City newspaper last month, Mehdi wrote, "To claim that a Jew from Shaker Heights, Ohio, has the right to occupy Palestine because Jews thousands of years ago occupied that land is not racist, but an absurd extension of racism."

He does acknowledge a human need and proposes one country with two names on the pattern of Yugoslavia. Mehdi's latest project is an Islamic-Catholic Commission for Ecumenical Purposes.

He wants to create a consciousness of Judeo-Christian ethos.

Katherine Kennedy is a freelance writer with a background of Islamic studies.

The beast

TIMES CHANGE. Nothing is stationary; people age and die, cities rot and crumble, plains are dug up for factories to run and forests die away of acid rain. Smog screens out sun rays while chemical wastes wipe away fish and plants. Wars destroy countries and cultures, bombs maim little children and lethal gas poisons thousands of innocent people. These are some of man's most devastating accomplishments.

All these happen while nature fights to overcome man's destruction of life on earth. Volcanoes erupt in the oceans to give birth to new islands where life can start again, rivers and oceans strive to clean the wastes men throw into their waters again to save what little life they can. At any rate, men are born to take the places of those who departed and the cycle of life, awkward as it is, continues to evolve.

Man's most cherished desire was to tap the powers of nature, to emulate it and to win the battle against its forces. Man began by fearing but admiring the great powers which breathed life into the sun, the sea, the wind and the fire. His admiration was followed by an overwhelming sense of curiosity which is how man managed to divulge most of nature's secrets. Curiously was the primitive conception of modern science and investigation.

It took men long and lonely centuries to isolate the forces of nature and harness them to his own uses. He controlled fire, domesticated animals, learned to make tools, invented the wheel which took him to waters, rode the sea by taming the winds and understanding the seasons, he monitored the skies at night and imagined

Memorandum

By Osama El-Sherif



shapes and designs which helped him to travel without losing his way. Man's process of growing up was an exciting one. He did not find all the answers he wanted, but still his brain never rested.

But as man grew up and nature yielded its precious secrets unto him, his ambitions grew wider. He was not satisfied and wanted more — always more. So man became an adventurer and moved from one place to another in search of knowledge and wealth. Wealth in terms of power, possession of land and control of others. He crossed the fine line dividing the beast from the man in him almost daily. One could never predict when man was man — a noble creature who was above all in the animal kingdom — and when man became the beast buried deep inside. So man invented wars.

Wars were not the only thing man invented. He also created sets of ideals to justify killings, lootings and slavery. Suddenly those who controlled the powers of nature controlled earth and its inhabitants and when more than one nation claimed absolute control of earth they went to war and the beast came out to roam the earth.

Coming through from the darkest ages to the ages of knowledge when nature yielded generously more secrets, the world had changed. No limit to man's sovereignty was accepted and life was no longer simple. Man's quest was not concentrated on harvesting the fruits of the land to survive, to keep warm in winters and to produce children. Grandeur ambitions were in the making

and the gap separating those who controlled the forces of nature from those who were denied the privilege grew wider. Nations came to exist and cultures were severely crushed by others. Domination of other nations became an obsession and later man was proud to declare world wars whose sole aim was to select the fittest — he who can claim the bounty by himself. Control of the world became a reality and nature's forces served to make this true.

Today, we have a divided world — those who know and those who don't — and there is little to be proud of. The battle for control is still going on, but the odds are much higher with the arrival of the nuclear holocaust. The same forces of nature which helped elevate man into an age where he can fly into previously unknown space, dive to the bottom of the oceans and create machines to do one's job for him, are the same powers which, unleashed will bring him down to an instant demise.

We have destroyed more than built and we have turned earth, the only home we have in this cold and alien space into a dying planet. We are determined to win the battle of controlling one another and of ruling the world and in the process we are bound to misuse nature's forces like we have done in the past. There are no reasons to make us doubt the eventual rebirth of that beast which lives within and then just as nature gave us life when we were still children millions of years ago, it will be nature which will take everything away from us.

opinion



The New Year and South Africa

FOR THE blacks in South Africa, the dawn of the New Year does not mean any change. The struggle against apartheid continues unabated and the attendant merciless killings of demonstrators are taking their toll. In the first five days of the New Year, 27 people were reported killed.

Elsewhere in the country, Mrs Winnie Mandela the wife of the jailed black nationalist leader, Nelson Mandela continues her sole opposition to the government. In Lesotho, the government was angry over the provoked attacks by South African troops on what the latter said were installations of the African National Congress (ANC), the black nationalist group fighting apartheid.

On Sunday, the South African government blamed Botswana for allowing ANC guerrillas to cross the border into South Africa to lay landmines which exploded causing extensive damages. These are but a few of the events in the scenario.

A new year has begun and it is only nine days old. And just as it happens every year, individuals, organizations and governments all make resolutions. On individual levels, people either give up habits which they consider as bad or adopt new ways of life. Organizations think of the new programmes for the new year, while governments either adopt new policies, modify or abandon old ones which did not work well in the past years.

So, the minority regime in South Africa must also do something for the world to see what it has in store as far as its distance on apartheid is concerned. What is expected from the South African regime is to grant freedom to the black majority. The freedom they are fighting for is the one which will give them equal social and political rights. President Botha is well aware of this already, but he does not want to budge.

Yet, black nationalism is now at its apogee and there seems to be no turning back. This means the demonstrations and violence will continue and so are the 'massacres' by the security forces.

The government in South Africa's New Year resolution should in my opinion, and I believe is that of all peace lovers in the world, be the abolition of all the apartheid policies, which will lead to political rights for the black majority who are the rightful owners of the land.

At the same time more international effort is called for to bring the South African government to realize the futility in the campaign it has mounted to perpetrate apartheid. The United Nations, the Commonwealth, the Non-Aligned Movement, the superpowers etc., — all have a role to play in this issue.

Let all join hands in finding a lasting solution to the problem in South Africa this year. As it were, these days, attention has shifted from the issue of the independence of South West Africa (Namibia) which is also equally important.

Asian outlook

By G.K. Nair

IT WAS reported in the media that the Pro-Soviet government of Babrak Karmal in Afghanistan would submit a time table to the United Nations for the Soviet troops withdrawal from his country. The withdrawal programme according to reports is to last for one year.

The withdrawal of the communist forces from Afghanistan will be on the basis of guarantees from the United States and Pakistan. Assurances from these two countries have become paramount for Kabul because of a possible threat to the Karmal government from the guerrillas supported by external forces.

It is a well known fact that the United States aid the Afghan guerrillas fighting the Karmal regime with money and modern and sophisticated weapons while Pakistan harbours the rebels in camps set up on its territories bordering Afghanistan. Also these countries do not recognize the pro-communist regime in Kabul.

The fear therefore in Kabul and Kremlin is perpetrated by the strength of the guerrilla movement which might endanger the stability of the Karmal government and its likely fall will pave the way for the installation of a pro-US government in Afghanistan. Such a government or the Soviet borders may not be palatable to Moscow.

The disunity among the guerrilla groups based in tribal feudalism, in fact, to some extent has its impact on the resistance movement. The tribal feuds play an important role in Afghan politics, and the government in Kabul, as a new year gift and in a drive to rally support of certain ethnic groups and to exploit the disunity among the rebel groups, President Karmal announced the induction into his cabinet of some non-party members. The changes in the cabinet preceded the announcement of

Afghan government submits time table for Soviet withdrawal

A time table for Soviet troop withdrawal. He named a textile executive, a senior non-party man as a deputy prime minister while four others will also be inducted as advisers in various ministries.

The appointment of former President of Afghan Radio and a Pashtun language writer Mr Mohammed Akbar Kargar as the president of the Press and Publication committee in the rank of a Minister is obviously aimed at gaining the support of the major ethnic group, the Pashtuns.

Thus the announcement of the changes in the cabinet at the anniversary of his government shows some sort of flexibility in the communist regime to find a political solution to the crisis.

Also attributable to the changed atmosphere is the improvement in the East-West relations which in 1979 reached its lowest bottom similar to the Cuban missile crisis.



Afghan guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed government of Babrak Karmal

Terrorism and retaliation

Al-Ithhad newspaper of Abu Dhabi writes that the most effective solution to terrorism is through resolving the Palestinian question in all its aspects. It also writes that continued Israeli threats against the Arabs in the wake of the twin attacks on Rome and Vienna airports call for total Arab preparedness to repel any possible aggression.

Al-Bayan, another Abu Dhabi daily, asserts that a just solution to all aspects of the Palestinian problem should be found if terrorism is to end. Such solution, the paper adds, cannot be achieved by transcending the Palestinians and ignoring their legitimate right to self-determination.

"If there is a desire to restore peace and stability to the Middle East and stop the cycle of violence, a settlement to the conflict should be achieved, a settlement that tackles the roots which nurture terrorism," the paper asserts.

It also remarks that the Jews used to live in peace and as equal citizens in Arab countries until Zionism dragged them into the conflict and adopted terrorism as means to achieve political objectives. Terrorism in the Middle East was started by the Zionists, the paper remarks, adding that some Arabs had to resort to the same tactics in an attempt to renege their rights.

The Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Anba'a condemns every terrorist act that harms innocent people, saying that Kuwait itself has suffered from terrorism and will continue to firmly confront it, but it adds that a great dividing line should be drawn between acts of terrorism and the right to resist them on one hand and the right the US claims it possesses to act as the world policeman and the unchallenged party which alone decides what should be done. It warns the US against a retaliatory move saying that any American attack will be defeated, leaving Washington with a new scar caused by a reckless military intervention.

Al-Raya daily of Qatar reaffirms condemnation of all terrorist actions carried out by PLO dissidents, but it adds that the Arabs should stand firmly against the United States and Israel when they threaten to attack Libya or any other nation. It goes on to say that alliance in the face of the US and Israeli threats severely undermines the brotherly ties that should exist among all Arab countries and could be construed as acquiescence to an aggression on an Arab Muslim country.

The English-language newspaper, the Gulf Times writes that it is better for the United States to pay attention to the real source of terrorism in the Middle East and try to check the mounting Israeli extremism and stop the oppressive measures which are being practised daily against Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories.

"Terrorism exists in the Occupied West Bank, Gaza and South Lebanon where Arabs are subjected to indiscriminate killing and torture. Israeli actions in the occupied territories would not have been possible without continued absolute US support to Israel, including the use of veto at the UN Security Council to foil any attempt by the international community to put an end to the Israeli aggression," writes the Gulf Times.

Egypt's return

The Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Rai' Al-A'm calls for an Arab-Egyptian reconciliation because no other country can fill the vacuum caused by Cairo's absence from the Arab fold. It says that contacts between Jordan, Egypt and the PLO will eventually bring about a new formula for common action to reactivate the freezing Arab issue and stimulate political efforts to end the current stalemate.

"Ever since it froze the part of the Camp David agreements which deal with the Palestinian question, Egypt has proven to Israel, the Arabs and the whole world that it can never abandon the Palestinian people's rights, including the right to self-determination under the leadership of the PLO," Al-Rai' Al-A'm asserts.

It also notes that the Egyptian attitude was behind the PLO's rapprochement with Cairo despite all attempts to discourage the organization's steps in that direction.

Arab League meeting

The Qatari newspaper Al-Arab calls on Arab foreign ministers meeting in Tunis this week to discuss the resumption of relations

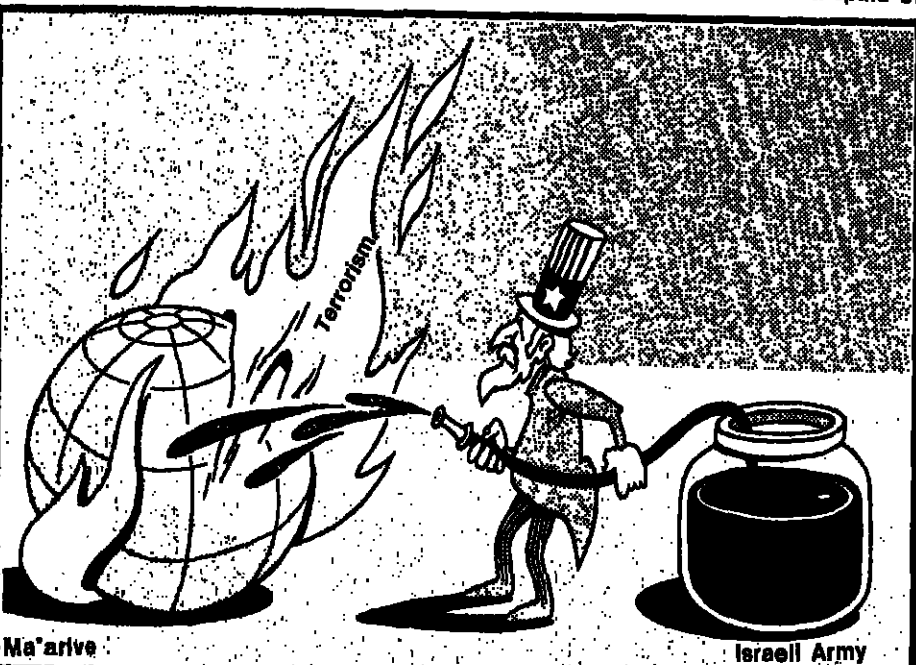


between Israel and the Ivory Coast to agree on an effective way to convince African countries to maintain their diplomatic boycott of Israel and keep up their co-operation with the Arab world which is of vital importance to the two sides.

It adds that some African states may wonder why the Arabs resist the resumption of relations with Israel while Egypt, the most powerful Arab state, has established diplomatic ties with Israel. These countries, the paper adds, are simply misled because Arab governments and peoples oppose the Camp David agreements and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

The Lebanese peace accord

Al-Khaleej newspaper of Al-Sharja expresses the view that the conflict will continue in East Beirut due to the presence of Lebanese, regional and international elements whose interests lie in sabotaging the Damascus-sponsored peace accord. These people, the paper explains, are fighting a battle in defence of economic, political and social privileges and are prepared



to take every possible step to maintain the present sectarian system which provided them with these privileges.

Al-Rai' Al-A'm welcomes the accord, saying that Syria deserves utmost praise for its relentless effort to end Lebanon's bloody strife. It expresses the hope that peace in Lebanon will serve as a basis for a comprehensive Arab peace and become the first step towards an overall Arab reconciliation.

Ad-Dustour newspaper expresses the view that the Iran-Iraq war represents the major challenge for the Islamic world and means of resolving the conflict should be given top priority in any common Islamic action.

"A successful Islamic bid to end the war will constitute a true beginning for dealing with other important issues which could never be resolved without the presence of an Islamic world dominated by internal unity and whose potentials are mobilized in full to serve the purpose of restoring Arab and

Muslim rights, especially the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland," writes Ad-Dustour.

Al-Rai' newspaper remarks that statements made recently by some Israeli politicians about the Jordanian-Syrian reconciliation reassert the fact that Israel wants Arab differences to continue so as to keep common Arab action paralysed and prevent the use of Arab capabilities in the service of pan-Arab goals and objectives.

The paper, however, says that Israel is right when it feels worried about the reconciliation between Amman and Damascus because the two countries can together launch a determined successful effort to rally Arab ranks for the cherished purpose of liberating the occupied territory.

Israeli Press

Al-Hamlehmar also commenting on the terrorist acts committed in Vienna and Rome says that there has been a spate of

Hadeshot writes also about the bloody events in Vienna and Rome airports and says that those events caused strong reactions in Europe and the USA. After such events the US usually warns Israel not to take any precipitate step. But this time America issued a statement which may be interpreted as encouragement to Israel to take some military action.

The State Department spokesman stated that the military response must be carefully studied and should not be made to increase the cycle of violence in the region. But a White House spokesman on the other hand issued a severe statement and said that the US policy is that if terrorists can be reached in their hideouts, then action must be taken against them directly. The paper adds that the two terrorist acts in Vienna and Rome airports took place far from the Middle East and the number of non-Israelis exceeded that of Israelis. Why then does the US give the green light for an Israeli action while the former does not perform its duty to hit international terrorism? The paper asks. It is the duty of Israel to refuse the advice of the US as Israel should not be a tool in the hands of or a cat's paw for America.

Zo Haderich says that few days ago the PLO signed an agreement with the Greek government for combating terrorist operations which aim at targets in Greece. The PLO has also offered the Italian government a similar agreement. The purposes of these agreements are to protect the lives of innocent people. These developments took place, the paper continues, in the aftermath of furious campaign to harm the Palestinian people and to bring the PLO into disrepute.

"If we look at the facts we can conclude that a good number of the PLO leadership died as a result of terrorism," the paper says. There was also an attempt to kill the PLO representative in Cyprus one day after the deplorable events which took place in Rome and Vienna airports. The paper also mentions that the PLO lost Dr Issam Sartawi and Fahd el Qawasmli as a result of terrorism. It is therefore clear, the paper concludes, the planners of terrorist acts wanted to bring the PLO into disrepute and several people take the opportunity after the occurrence of those events to soil the reputation of the PLO, thus it is certain that the PLO works seriously and honestly to combat international terrorism.

Al Quds Arabic newspaper in East Jerusalem says that after the kidnapping of Achille Lauro ship, many people tried to bring the PLO to disrepute and to belittle the courageous steps which it has taken towards the peace process. Still those people are bent on exploiting the tragic events in Vienna and Rome in an attempt to put an end to the possible participation of the PLO in the political moves to end the suffering which has been suffered for four decades by the peoples of the Middle East. The PLO denied that it has any connection or relation with the terrorist acts committed in Rome and Vienna airports and it also denounced all forms of international terrorism. All parties concerned the paper concludes, must find a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict because those events augur badly for more tragic events might take place in the future.

Koterit Rashit writes that the political freeze in the region is likely to continue the cycle of violence and terrorism because as long as the Palestinian people's problem has not been solved the inevitable result will be more tragedies and more suffering and God only knows who will pay the price, where and when.

Those who plan and execute terrorist acts are the offshoot of frozen policy and inaction and they themselves realise that the progress of the peace process is likely to defeat them or to encircle their moves. Therefore, the paper concludes, they attempt to mar the PLO reputation and put spokes in the wheels of its endeavours to push the peace process forward.

The true initiative for peace relies basically on real intention and sincere desire of all parties concerned in the Arab-Israeli conflict. If those conditions are fulfilled then an international peace conference can be held in which all parties can participate including the PLO, Israel, the Arab countries concerned and the permanent members of the UN Security Council. If the efforts for peace fulfilled then the result will be violence and anti-violence in our region and for many years to come.

Davar writes about the Syrian missiles and says that last week tension rose on the Syrian borders because Israel cannot tolerate the playing of missiles directed towards its airplanes.

THE JERUSALEM STAR

Finance, business & economy

Agricultural achievements, future prospects

By Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — As the Ministry of Agriculture assesses agricultural activity in 1985 and prepares for the 1986-90 Five-Year Plan, Under Secretary Dr Saleem Al Lawzi spoke to the press about Jordan's agricultural achievements and its prospects for the future.

Dr Al Lawzi said that, notwithstanding the drought which prevailed in the region during the years of the last plan, the agricultural sector has been able to achieve a record of agricultural production which raised the additional value of the agricultural sector from JD 64.5 million in 1980 to JD 80.3 million in 1984 at fixed prices. This is close to the revenue planned for, namely JD 88 million in 1985 in the five-year plan. As regards specific production, cereal and fruit production has fallen while increases achieved in vegetables, fruit, chicken, eggs and other products have sometimes surpassed the expectations of the plan.

Dr Al Lawzi explained that the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company (AMPCO) has been charged with the function of trading in agricultural commodities inside and outside Jordan. It has bought agricultural products on a wholesale basis and helped to organise prices by influencing supply and demand. In recent weeks the company has begun exporting apples and courgettes to Syria, Lebanon and other Arab countries.

The government is also determined to apply the cropping pattern system so that production and marketing bottlenecks can be avoided and crops can be produced in sufficient quantities for consumption, processing and export.

In a further reference to marketing procedures, Dr Al Lawzi pointed out that the recent govern-

ment decision to float prices of agricultural products was taken in response to requests by farmers and it will have a great effect on the prevention of fraud and cheating and the increased capability of the Jordanian farmer to compete with outside products, and will thus be an incentive for higher production.

With regard to the expectations in the agricultural sector during the coming five-year plan, Dr Al Lawzi said that a total of 25 agricultural projects are expected to be implemented which should increase the revenue of the agricultural sector and thus improve the living standard of farmers.

Among the major projects are the development of River Zarqa Basin, the development of the highlands, a major soil survey and classification programme, protection and re-afforestation of forests, protection of soil and planting of fruit trees, development of pasture lands, development of the Hamad basin in North-East Jordan, the establishment of slaughter houses and projects for the production of veterinary vaccines. Overall, these should strengthen Jordan's agricultural infrastructure and expand production.

The total cost of investments planned for the agricultural sector is about JD 332 million of which the private sector is expected to invest JD 220 million. The schedule (see box below) shows the average production and self-sufficiency realised during the second plan and what is aimed for during the coming plan.

The Ministry of Agriculture has also organised a wide range of programmes as part of Jordan's 1988 Arbor Day celebrations which will take place on 25 January.

This year the celebrations will be marked by the beginning of an ambitious development project, the Zarqa Basin project, which aims at developing about 820,000 dunums of highland in Jordan. The main

celebration will take place outside the capital Amman at Mastaba village in the Jerash Governorate.

During the celebrations fruit trees will be planted on privately owned lands.

Dr Al Lawzi describes 1986 as a year of co-operation between the Ministry of Agriculture and a number of other bodies including the Armed Forces, the Ministry of Public Works, municipalities and village councils, the Ministry of Education and the Water Authority. This co-operation will be of great value for agriculture, and in beautifying roadways and public places.

About 7.5 million forest and nursery plants have been produced this year, four million of which have been distributed to the public and the rest will be used in various afforestation projects. One million fruit trees have also been produced and will be sold to farmers at favourable prices.

On the wider agricultural scene, Dr Al Lawzi feels that the world situation is positive in many aspects. He says that although the final results of 1985 harvest are not available, it seems that the situation during the year was good and it is possible that the world food production increased at a higher rate than the population increase. Africa has been able to achieve a noticeable prosperity after the tragedy of recent harvests and it is expected that total cereal storage will reach to 21 per cent of the yearly consumption at the end of the current season which is enough to achieve world food security.

But according to Dr Al Lawzi "Not all things are as we desire as there are deep problems in the field of commodity trading, but I do not see great possibilities in the medium term for prosperous trading in agricultural commodities. Indeed the expectations of the FAO are that the growth of external demand during this decade will be in most cases slower than in the seventies and therefore developing and developed countries will suffer equally."

Production target for 1986-90

Crop	Average production 1981-85	Proportion of self-sufficiency	Average planned production 1986-90	Proportion of self-sufficiency	Percentage change between the two periods
In 1000's of tonnes					
Wheat	61	14	116	21	90
Pulses	9	57	12	61	33
Barley	20	18	26	20	30
Other field crops	6	6	18	15	200
Dried green fodder	3	6	120	200	3,900
Field cereals	99	12	292	33	150
Vegetables	628	182	850	243	35
Olives	45	100	67	102	26
Fruit and grapes	41	55	50	54	23
Citrus	60	101	100	132	89
Dairy	49	69	60	77	22
Red Meat	9.5	29.5	12	40	26
Poultry and other meat	37	83	50	91	36
Fish	0.2	5	1	21.7	4,900
Eggs (million)	402	111	445	100	11

Contracts & Contacts

• THE WATER Authority announces that the opening of Tender NO. 58/85 regarding the construction of sewage in Naour Training Centre has been postponed to 14 January 1986.

• TENDER NO. 1/86. Supply of equipment and materials for the soil testing laboratory of the Water Authority. Tender documents are available for JD 10 at the main office of the Water Authority. Closing date: 21 January 1986.

• TENDER NO. 103/85. Supply of Vascular fluid for Jordan University. Price of tender documents: JD 15. Closing date: 17 February 1986.

• TENDER NO. 104/85. Construction works in the University's Ranch at El Ghor. Tender documents are available for JD 25. Closing date: 13 January 1986.

• TENDER NO. 1/86. Supply of pills and vaccines. Tender documents are available for JD 25. Closing date: 10 February 1986.

• TENDER NO. 2/86. Supply of ointments and eye drops. Tender documents are available for JD 15. Closing date: 17 February 1986.

• TENDER NO. 3/86. Supply of medicines for patients suffering from cancer. Tender documents are available for JD 15. Closing date: 10 February 1986. Tender documents for the above tenders may be obtained from the Secretariat of the Central Committee in Jordan University.

• TENDER NO. 18/86. Construction of a pipeline with various diameters of a length of 520 meters and for repaving the concrete ground. Tender documents are available for JD 25 at the Government Tenders Directorate. Closing date: 29 January 1986.

• SUPPLY OF mercury light units for the Village Council of El Al, Madaba Governorate. Tender documents are available at the Secretary of the Village Council for JD 5. Closing date: 12 January.

• CONSTRUCTION OF an extension to Wadi Musa School. Tender documents available for JD 15 at the Public Works Directorate at Ma'an. Closing date: 12 January.

• TENDER NO. 1/86/1. Supply of gravel mixture for spreading. Price of tender documents JD 120.

• TENDER NO. 1/86/2. Supply of gravel mixture from tail-gate of the truck. Price of tender documents JD 10.

• TENDER NO. 1/86/3. Construction of basic layer for the road. Cost of tender document: JD 80.

• TENDER NO. 1/86/4. Supply of various kinds of gravel and Swelch sand to Amman Municipality's site. Tender documents for the above-mentioned tenders can be had from the Amman Municipality office. Closing date: 19 January 1986.

• TENDER NO. 2/66. Supply of transformers and fuses. Tender documents are available for JD 75 at the Irbid Electricity Company. Closing date 13 January 1986.

• CONSTRUCTION OF eight school rooms at Manshiet Beni Hassan. Tender documents are available for JD 10 with the Secretary of Manshiet Beni Hassan Municipality. Closing date: 20 January 1986.

Arab Potash to double

AMMAN (Star) — Mr Ali Naour the Director General of the Arab Potash Company stated that the company has been able to overcome all obstacles which it faced during the past years and it will begin to earn profit during the years 1986 and 1987 and it will make good recoup all its losses in 1989 and 1990.

About the future projects Mr Naour said that action will be taken to make economic and technical feasibility studies during the years 1986 and 1987 to achieve the production target. The company will also produce a number of by-products through its subsidiaries complementary to the potash industry and which depend on the secondary material for the potash industry such as sodium carbonate, potassium sulphate, bromine, magnesium oxide and compound fertilizers.

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Dollar rises slightly, gold up

LONDON (AP) — The US dollar recovered slightly on currency markets Wednesday in quiet, trendless European trading. Gold gained, possibly spurred in part by uneasiness over the US-Libyan crisis, a London dealer said.

But the Libyan crisis was not seen to be affecting the dollar, and dealers said the only factor likely to influence the US currency was the US unemployment total for December, to be released Wednesday. A jobless rate of 7.2 per cent would be enough to knock the dollar down, they said.

Meanwhile, said a dealer in Frankfurt, corporate demand for dollars, although lower than usual for the time of year, was supporting the US currency's present level.

In Tokyo, where trading ends before Europe's business day begins, the dollar rose to a closing 201.65 Yen from Tuesday's 201.35. Later, in London, it was quoted at 201.55 Yen.

Other dollar rates at mid-morning, compared with late Tuesday:

- 2.4410 West German Marks, up from 2.4333
- 2.0705 Swiss Francs, up from 2.0607
- 7.4825 French Francs, up from 7.4475
- 2.7480 Dutch Guilders, up from 2.7405
- 1,668.25 Italian Lira, up from 1,663.50
- 1.39850 Canadian Dollars, up from 1.39725

In London, the British Pound was quoted at \$1.4420, compared with 1.4415 Tuesday.

Usually gold falls when the dollar advances, but the metal registered gains in New York and Hong Kong, and smaller rises in later trading in Europe.

Gold opened in London at a bid price of \$330.10 a troy ounce, compared with late Tuesday's 329.60. At mid-morning Wednesday, the city's five major bullion dealers fixed a recommended price of \$330.90.

A dealer who spoke on condition he not be identified called the market "bust and choppy," and said the price was rising on the strength of gains made Tuesday as well as worries that President Ronald Reagan's confrontation with Libya over terrorist attacks in Europe could escalate.

In Zurich, the bid price was \$330.90, up from 330.00 late Tuesday.

Earlier, in Hong Kong, gold rose 1.44 to close at a bid 330.68.

In New York Tuesday, gold rose 2.20 to close at 331.00.

Silver was quoted in London Wednesday at a bid price of \$5.89 a troy ounce, unchanged from Tuesday.

World Bank lending

● **BOTSWANA** will improve the access of schoolchildren, particularly in the rural areas, to primary and secondary education with a project to be supported by a loan of \$28 million from the World Bank.

The World Bank has helped finance three earlier education projects in Botswana, with loans totalling \$40.5 million. These projects have provided wide-ranging assistance, mainly for primary and junior secondary education, training teachers, developing labour-intensive training brigades, and various informal training programmes in the public sector.

The project, expected to be completed in 1991, is estimated to cost \$44 million overall. The government will provide funding amounting to \$18 million.

● **MAURITANIA:** Efforts by Mauritania to diversify its economy will receive a boost from a project aimed at strengthening an important state industrial and mining enterprise.

The state enterprise, Société Nationale Industrielle et Minière (SNIM), is investing \$92.2 million in a project that will help it continue to improve its management and reduce production costs. The World Bank is providing a loan of \$20 million to partly finance the project.

SNIM will spend \$36.4 million of its own resources to carry out the project. The Kuwaiti Arab Fund are providing \$18.2 million; the Abu Dhabi Fund, \$5.8 million; the Saudi Fund, \$5.7 million; the Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund of Japan, \$3.1 million; and Caisse Centrale de Co-operation Economique of France, \$3 million.

● **CHINA** will continue its efforts to diversify and modernize its agricultural sector by investing in the development of fisheries, orchards, agricultural products, and livestock enterprises in the relatively poor southeastern provinces of Fujian and Hunan.

The International Development Association (IDA) is providing a credit of \$84 million (\$90 million) to support the project which will cost about \$257 million overall. IDA is the World Bank's concessional lending affiliate.

The Agricultural Bank of China will use the IDA credit and \$90 million from its own resources to finance a three-year programme of investments in the production of fresh and saltwater fish, fruits and livestock, and in the processing of agricultural products. Farmers, collectives and enterprises that will participate in the project are expected to invest a total of about \$77 million.

● **INDIA's** seventh largest state, Gujarat, is to carry out an urban development project that will benefit over five million people. IDA is supporting the project with a credit of \$DR 88.6 million (\$92 million).

The State government and the public housing agencies will provide funding of \$68.6 million for the project.

EURODEPOSIT RATES

Currencies Period	US \$	DM	FF	SF	D Fls	Yen	Sterling Pound
1 M	7 8/16	4 1/2	10 1/4	4	5 5/8	6 5/8	11 7/8
2 M	7 7/8	—	11 1/2	4 1/16	5 5/8	6 9/16	11 3/16
3 M	7 16/8	4 9/16	11 3/8	—	5 5/8	6 1/2	12 3/8
6 M	7 7/8	4 5/8	11 3/8	—	5 5/8	6 5/16	12 3/8
9 M	7 7/8	4 5/8	11 3/4	4	5 11/16	6 5/16	12 3/8
12 M	7 15/8	4 11/16	11 1/2	4 1/16	5 11/16	6 5/16	12 5/16
2 Years	8 5/16	5 1/8	—	—	—	—	—
3 Years	8 13/16	5 5/8	—	—	—	—	—
4 Years	9 1/16	6 3/16	—	—	—	—	—
5 Years	9 3/16	6 3/8	—	—	—	—	—

Source: Finance and Credit Corporation

GOLD IN JORDAN

AMMAN (Star) — Prices on Wednesday 8 January, 1986 were as follows:

18 ct. JD 3.100 per gramme	
21 ct. JD 3.450 per gramme	
24 ct. JD 4.200 per gramme	
One kilogramme (9999) JD 3,975.500	
Ounce... JD 130.620	
Gold Sterling... JD 25.150	
(Central Bank)	
Rashadi Pound... JD 28.600	
(Seven grammes)	

Source: Yousef Abu Sara, Jewellers, Amman.

EXCHANGE RATES

	buy	sell
US dollar	.370	.372
Sterling pound	.530	.540
German mark	.148	.150
French franc	.048	.049
Swiss franc	.174	.178
Dutch guilder	.130	.132
Italian Lira (1000)	.210	.220
Swedish krona	.047	.048
Saudi riyal	.101	.102
Kuwaiti dinar	1.270	1.280
UAE dirham	.100	.101
Egyptian pound	.210	.220
Syrian lira	.026	.028
Iraqi dinar	.330	.340
Omani riyal	1.060	1.070

Source: National Jordan Exchange Company



Cadillac allante airbridge

ALITALIA and General Motors of Detroit signed on 12 September an agreement for the transportation of automobile components, bodies and accessories from Detroit to Turin, and of assembled cars from Turin to Detroit.

The duration, value and prestige of this contract makes it the most important contract stipulated with a single client in Alitalia's history.

Starting 1 September 1986, for three years, Alitalia will engage considerable technical and operative energies in maintaining the regularity and punctuality levels

called for by this agreement, reached after 18 months of negotiations, and which may be renewed at the end of 1989 for further one year periods.

The services offered by Alitalia will be operated by the company's all-cargo B-747, the Stressa, which will carry about 90 tonnes of components each week on the Detroit-Turin stage, and 65 cars on the Turin-Detroit stage.

The cars transported on Alitalia's all-cargo 747 will be assured a more secure anchorage, thanks to special supports devised by Alitalia, together with Cadillac, Boeing and Lufthansa which will

ensure that the vehicles are firmly anchored into position.

Turin airport, through its airport authority, the SAGAT company, is currently working on new infrastructures which will guarantee the highest standards of efficiency in the loading and unloading operations both of the car bodies and of the assembled cars.

With an aim to ensuring the maximum regularity and punctuality of these operations, Turin airport is also being equipped for category 3A landings. Alitalia will carry out this entire operation, for the duration of the contract, with the collaboration of Lufthansa.

Financial Market Report

Prices fall sharply

By Mamdouh El Ghaly
Star Financial Market Analyst

THE SHARE prices fell sharply at the beginning of the new year due to the decline in the share profit in the market value. The fall of the share price reached a record low and it is expected to fall further in the coming two weeks at least. On the other hand shares trading was weak to the extent that not more than 39 companies traded with their shares all through the week, i.e., half of the number of companies which usually trade with their shares.

675,000 shares were handled at the market value of JD 472,000 divided among 760 contracts registering a decrease of 30.5 per cent compared to last week.

The daily handling average amounted to JD 117,000 with a deviation of 67.9 per cent or 17 per cent of total around this average, thus indicating instability at the market.

The shares of 39 companies were handled from which 4 companies gained including:

- 1- National Portfolio closing at JD .620 up from JD .550
 - 2- Chemical Catalyst Industries closing at JD .660 up from JD .590
 - 3- Ala Eddin Industries closing at JD .720 up from JD .660
- 31 companies lost including:
- 1- Arab Union & Consultation closing at JD .800 down from JD 1.000
 - 2- Arab Seas Insurance closing at JD 2.050 down from JD 2.400
 - 3- Jordan Dairy closing at JD 1.100 down from JD 1.230
 - 4- Finance & Credit Corporation closing at JD .890 down from JD 1.000
 - 5- Housing Bank closing at JD 1.450 down from JD 1.580

4 companies had no change in their share values.

In the over-the-counter market, more than 40,000 shares were handled at a market value of JD 14,000.

Trading in the regular market was distributed among the sectors according to the following percentages:

Sectors	Market share	Last week's share
Banks	60.8%	64.2%
Industry	36.9%	17.7%
Services	1.8%	10.8%
Insurance	.5%	7.3%

Prominent firms whose shares were traded by sector

Banks (out of 16 traded)	Share of sector	Share of market
1- Finance & Credit	58.2%	34.2%
2- Arab Bank	10.8%	6.6%

Industrials (out of 4 traded)		
1- Arab Aluminium Industries	31.2%	11.5%
2- Plastic Bags Industries	23.4%	8.6%
3- Intermediate Petrochemicals	19.5%	7.2%
4- Ala Eddin Industries	17%	6.3%

Services (out of 5 traded)		
1- Jordan Electric Power	47.2%	.9%

Insurance (out of 14 traded)		
1- Jordan-French Insurance	35.7%	.2%

Weekly average

Dates	Banks	Insurance	Services	Industries	Average
1/1	-.2%	Zero	-.8%	-.2%	-1.8%
4/1	-4.7%	-4.8%	-5.1%	-1.9%	-4.4%
5/1	-2.5%	-8.1%	-1.1%	-.2%	-2.1%
8/1	+1.8%	-.2%	-.90%	-1.3%	-.65%
Total	—	—	—	—	-8.95%

Amman Stock Exchange

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET SHARES MOVEMENT FROM TUESDAY 31

DECEMBER TO MONDAY 6 JANUARY

NAME OF COMPANY	OPEN PRICE	CLOSE PRICE	CHANGE
BANKS			
JORDAN SECURITIES	1.080	1.020	-.06
JORDAN FINANCE HOUSE	.910	.860	-.06
ISLAMIC INVESTMENT	1.050	.980	-.07
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	2.790	2.590	-.07
JORDAN INVEST. & FINANCE	1.180	1.120	-.05
ISLAMIC BANK	2.550	2.500	-.02
JORDAN-KUWAIT	2.570	2.450	-.05
HOUSING BANK	1.580	1.450	-.09
NATIONAL FINANCIAL INV.	1.080	1.030	-.05
ARAB BANK	163.000	162.000	-.006
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.540	1.490	-.03
FINANCE AND CREDIT	1.000	.890	-.01
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	.550	.620	+.13
PETRA BANK	3.200	3.100	-.03
CAIRO-AMMAN BANK	20.000	20.000	

INDUSTRY

MACHINERY LEASING CO.	.670	.640	-.05
JORDAN DAIRIES	1.230	1.100	-.11
ARAB ALUMINUM	.750	.780	+.04
DAR AL DAWA	1.500	1.410	-.06
JORDAN REFINERIES	7.030	6.600	-.04
PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	.590	.660	+.12
ALA DIN INDUSTRIES	.660	.720	+.09
JORDAN LIME & BRICKS	.290	.290	
ARAB DETERGENTS	4.170	3.900	-.07
JORDAN PHOSPHATES	2.430	2.350	-.03
PAPER AND CARDBOARD	2.450	2.300	-.06
JOWICO	1.340	1.200	-.01
JORDAN TEXTILES	3.800	3.750	-.013
WOOL INDUSTRIES	.830	.820	-.01
RAFIA FOR PLASTICS	1.020	1.020	

INSURANCE

JORDAN-FRENCH INBU.	3.100	2.950	-.02
REFCO INSURANCE	.920	.910	-.01
YARMOUK INSURANCE	.850	.800	-.06
ARAB SEAS INSURANCE	2.400	2.050	-.15

GENERAL

JORDAN ELECTRICITY CO.	1.570	1.460	-.07
PETRA MACHINE RENTALS	.780	.780	
NATIONAL MARITIME	.730	.720	-.014
GARAGE OWNERS UNION	5.700	5.500	-.04

The aid debate: suspect policies

There's a growing belief that earth provides and man misuses, that mistaken policies not the vagaries of weather are the real reasons famine swept so much of Africa in 1985. The farmers hold the key.

LONDON — It is hard to establish the relative importance of the various causes of famine in Africa. Prolonged drought, growing populations, war and mistaken policies have all played their part.

Perhaps the most optimistic view is that bad policies have been the major cause, as this would mean new priorities could bring change effectively.

One person who holds this view is Oxford University economist Dr Keith Griffin, who in 1982 led a team advising the Ethiopian government on economic policy.

"There is no technical reason why Ethiopia couldn't have flourishing agriculture in zones now suffering famine," he said in an interview.

Last March he wrote a report on the economic crisis in Ethiopia which concluded that economic performance under the revolutionary regime had been even worse than under the Emperor.

While recognising the revolutionary government's redistribution of income in favour of the peasantry through its 1975 land reform, he was highly critical of what had been done subsequently.

He criticised the government's use of foreign aid for military purposes, and wrote, "Such investment as occurred has been concentrated on large-scale, capital-intensive industry in the three largest cities."

"Peasant agriculture has been utterly ignored; only state farms have received significant resources, and these have been wasted on huge, highly-mechanised and inefficient operations."

He said mass starvation could and would have been avoided if rationed food supplies had been distributed through the Peasant Associations in rural areas and through their urban equivalent in the large towns.

Among the government's bad priorities, he said, were the expenditure of \$280 million in September 1984 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the revolution, the search for a military solution to the country's political problems, and the decision to concentrate administrative talent on organising the Workers' Party rather than combating famine.

He also criticised the involvement of the superpowers and peninsular Arabs in the Horn of Africa which, he wrote, "has exacerbated conflict and made it more difficult to reach a political settlement."

Griffin advocated an industrialisation strategy based on agro-industries and rural development.

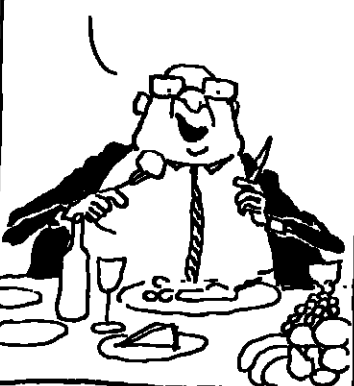
We now grow more than enough food for everyone in the world.



In an effort to spread industrial capital in efficient small-scale units and to reduce regional inequalities, while also reducing transport costs.

Simon Stocker, deputy general secretary of the charity War on Want, said, "War has been a major factor in the Horn of Africa fa-

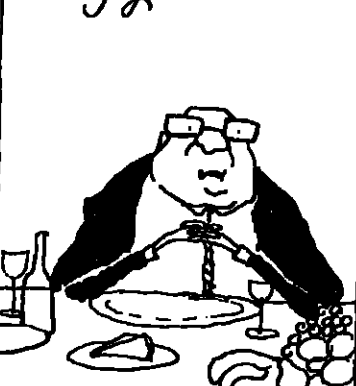
We use this surplus wealth to feed & eat animals, take in luxuries, make weapons and send interest rates wild



"If the nutrients are not replaced with regular supplements of fertiliser, then the soil becomes infertile very quickly. The poor cannot afford to buy fertiliser, and are not eligible for credit."

A report on famine by the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues also

This means that only 15 million people now starve to death every year & 500 million go hungry



Another factor putting the squeeze on rural poor is the development of middle-income classes with greater resources available in the competition for food, the inequalities sometimes being exacerbated by foreign aid.

According to another Ceres writer, Dr Pan A. Yotopoulos of the Food Research Institute at Stanford University, this trend can result in a selective rather than a general improvement in diets. While the richer consume more protein as meat, the poorer find there are less cereals available for them because of the increased demand for animal feed.

Corruption is another factor that hurts the poor farmer. A study carried out for FAO into the motivation of public officials in the agricultural sector in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand discovered corruption was widespread, especially in such input services as seeds, fertilisers, loans water and subsidies.

The study was carried out by Dr Anil Bhatt of the Institute of Management in Ahmedabad, India.

He concluded, "Corrupt officials can exercise powerful leverage, so lower-level officials feel obliged to endorse and facilitate corrupt practices which benefit their superiors and politicians."

"For instance, lower-level officials may be forced to certify rich farmers as small farmers, distribute water out of turn or free."

"The welfare of these lower level functionaries ... even their physical safety depends upon them aiding and abetting the corruption of stronger officials and politicians."

Bhatt recommended involving small farmers more in the delivery system and making the system more responsive to their views and needs.

The debate about the value of aid is likely to continue.

In a report entitled Doubts About Aid, Keith Griffin expressed his skepticism, "Donor countries can in principle concentrate their aid on the poorest countries (although in practice they do not do so), but it is almost impossible for

You could call it our Food For Thought program



Donor countries to ensure their aid reaches the poorest people (even if they wished to do so).

Studying 11 low-income countries plus Israel between 1970 and 1981, he found that although all were large recipients of foreign capital, not one managed to grow as fast as the average of low-income economies.

This led him to conclude, "Unless one believes foreign capital is channelled deliberately and systematically by aid donors and overseas investors to slowly-growing economies, and this is hardly plausible, one must doubt the beneficial effects of foreign capital on growth."

But Robert Cassen of the Institute of Development Studies at Sussex University is scornful of such statistical comparisons.

"It's like comparing the effects on a bee, a horse, a goose and a buffalo of protein intake," he said.

And Griffin concedes, "It's very hard to prove things affirmatively in economics. It's much easier to disprove them."

Cassen warned, "You have to do the maximum to raise incomes of poor people, but you shouldn't be mesmerised by food. An integrated programme of development thinks about all the things they need. It will be different in every single country."

It was Dr Henry Kissinger who set the world "a bold objective: That within a decade no child will go to bed hungry." Since Kissinger spoke in 1974 the number of the hungry has almost doubled.

Clearly what is needed is better aid and above all, better policies, geared to the needs of the rural poor rather than of governments. As Kissinger pointed out, we have the technical capacity to free mankind from hunger, but the question is whether we have the will.

Philip Willan is a London-based freelance journalist. He interviewed a wide range of development and economic experts for in-depth examination of aid.

Enjoy writing

THE STAR is in need of freelance writers on social, economic and political matters. University graduates in the field of English and Journalism preferred. Interested applicants should call

The Star on

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Bits and Bytes

FILES

FILES will be our last subject in BASIC language. The simplest definition to FILE is: Any source of information or any place where information can be stored.

Till now we realized that one way of saving data is using DATA statements, but if we need to add more data to DATA statements, the programme could become too large for the memory in our computer.

That will lead us to find a way to store data on an external memory (like tape or disk) and having the programme read as needed. The simplest way to do this is to use FILES.

Files in BASIC are two: Sequential files, Random access files (introducing random access files will be postponed to next week.)

What about sequential files? The word sequential means that the data on these files must be read in sequence, starting from the beginning, there is no way to jump to the middle of the data. Sequential files are means of storing ordered data externally on tape or disk, so the programmer must order the data so it can be read in the right sequence, we usually use three statements to store data in a sequential files which are:

10 OPEN "O", 1, "FILE 1", O

20 PRINT — 1,A,B,C

30 CLOSE 1

Line 10 means open (or activate) a file called "FILE 1" as output ("O") on channel 1 using disk drive number 0.

Line 20 means storing data in the variables A,B,C, in the file. Line 30 means close (or deactivate) the file on channel 1.

The programmer usually invents both the name and channel number following the rules set down in his system reference manual. Later if we want to read these data from the file back into programme variables, the following statements are used:

10 OPEN "I", 1, "FILE 1", O

20 INPUT — 1,X,Y,Z

30 CLOSE 1

The difference between these statements and the previous ones is that we open here the file as input to read from it and store data in sequence in the variables X,Y,Z.

Finally, we can use and PRINT statements (not print with no. of file) to print out data stored in files, since data are invisible to the user. According to previous examples we can insert this line to print out the values of X,Y,Z.

25 PRINT "THE VALUES OF X,Y,Z=";X;Y;Z

Maha Mahadeen

GAME

Just use your mind

MR Z has 3 sons A,B,C and each one of them has his own sports hobby. The hobbies are: Swimming, basketball, tennis.

One of them likes swimming in a Star club while the second is a member of a Moon club and the third is of a Sun club.

Conditions:

— A is not a member of a Star club

— B is not a member of a Moon club

— The one who plays basketball is not a member of the Sun club.

If the one who likes swimming is not B then who likes playing basketball and in which club?

Answer for last week:

X = 14 Y = 10



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The stand of the peace process

"Most illegal immigrants in US are Israeli."

"The Zionist lobby usually gets what it wants."

"The Arab lobby is a lie."

"We got everything we want from the Arabs for nothing."

DURING A recent visit to the United States, one of the top goals that I made every effort to fulfill was to talk to Ambassador James Aikens, who served as US ambassador to Saudi Arabia for a number of years until Mr. Reagan would no longer (put up) with his open criticism of American policy in the Middle East. Mr. Aikens, even when he was still serving in his capacity as American ambassador to Saudi Arabia, often went on record as taking a different, more objective attitude towards Middle Eastern issues than his administration.

Mr. Aikens was gracious enough to receive me at his Washington DC home on a cold and rainy day, and we sat in his study for some time talking openly on several issues. It should also be stated that what Mr. Aikens says is coloured by emotional security. So if Mr. Aikens sounds bitter and sharp in his criticism of the status quo, it is because he is genuinely interested in offering some guidance and advice that might contribute to solving the problems of our region.

Q: Where does the peace process in the Middle East stand right now?

A: It appeared, at one point, that the Arab peace initiative was going to succeed because the assumption was that the United States was going to take this plan, develop it and improve on it. But, unfortunately, when we were supposed to meet the Arab delegation, Mr. Shultz said it was unrealistic for Americans to talk to anyone the Israelis rejected. In other words, the Israelis do have a veto on our decisions. And, if we are not going to talk to the people who are most intimately involved in this problem, namely the Palestinians

and their obvious leaders, the PLO, it is very difficult to see how there could be any progress in solving this problem. If we are only going to talk to Arabs or Palestinians whom the Israelis select, it is difficult to see how we are going to have any standing in the Arab community.

Q: His Majesty King Hussein has specifically proposed the idea of holding an international conference as the best forum to address the situation in the Middle East. What do you think of this idea?

A: I think it is an excellent idea. Actually one of the few times when we had some hope for the Middle East was in 1977 when President Carter suggested holding an international conference on the Middle East. And that proposal only lasted for three days. It was strongly attacked by Israel's supporters in the United States. Henry Kissinger launched some extremely strong attack on it because it was a formula for reintroducing the Russians to the Middle East, as if they have ever been excluded. Therefore, under this domestic pressure, Carter backed off, but if there is going to be peace in the Middle East, we will have to realize that the (superpowers) is not only the United States, but it is also the Soviet Union that is interested in the Middle East. I think His Majesty King Hussein's idea is extraordinarily good, therefore, but the total rejection of it from the United States is not going to advance the cause of peace.

Q: There is still some talk and debate as to who should represent the Palestinians. In our viewpoint the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, but it seems that this issue is still the stumbling block of the peace process. Are we going to go back to square one in this process?

A: It seems we are.

Q: Then, what do you think it



Mr James Aikens: Arabs are not overestimating the Zionist lobby

would take for this process to move forward?

A: We really have to go back and look at this a little more carefully. The Middle East is not an important issue for the United States today. The conclusion reached by Secretary Shultz and his principal advisers was that the Middle East

By Dr Nabil El-Sherif

is a secondary issue. And they have arrived at a number of interesting conclusions. First, that the oil crisis is over, and Opec is finished, and the price of oil will go down. Also, the Arabs are divided, and will never get together again. And Iraq is neutralized in the war with Iran and the countries that really count for us, that is the peninsula countries are firmly in our pocket. There is no combination of Arab states that could threaten Israel's military strength. All of these things are, at least partially, true. But then Shultz goes on to make the crucial error, and that is none of this will ever change. And if he assumes that this is a permanent situation, there is no use to push him to do something for the Middle East. People have talked to Shultz about the last opportunity or chance to achieve peace in the Middle East. Shultz dismisses that, saying there will always be another chance, so, the solution for the problem may be very urgent for the Palestinians, or for the Arab nation as a whole, but it is not of any urgency to the United States.

Q: Or to Israel?

A: Certainly not to Israel. Israel likes the present situation very much. It proceeds with the incorporation of the West Bank and Gaza, and hopes that the Palestinians will get demoralised. And eventually, the Israelis assume the Palestinians will conclude that the future lies elsewhere, and will voluntarily emigrate, or, if you belong to the right wing of Israeli politics, emigration can be encouraged one way or another. Meir Kahane says if he is to become Israel's Prime Minister, or Minister of Defence, the Arabs will be out of what he calls Eretz Israel within six weeks. And what makes the situation even more difficult is that many of the moderate Israelis are emigrating from Israel. We know, for instance, that in this country there are probably close to 600,000 Israelis (not Jews) who are living in this country (The United States) as illegal immigrants, most of them in New York, but also elsewhere. We have an extremely large illegal immigrant population, but a significant portion is Israeli. The Israelis do not count them as immigrants; they assume they will be coming back, but they never will go back it seems.

other previous administration. But this attitude is not, however, limited to this administration. I remember giving a speech in London some years ago, and I said that American policy towards the Middle East is not likely to change, even if John Connolly were to become Secretary of State. I could have said George Shultz, since Shultz also had a pro-Arab reputation at that time. In other words, if anyone were to say we should change our policies in the Middle East, people would say why? There is no need to change policy. We get everything we want from the Arabs for nothing, which is quite true. The Arabs make their statements, strong statements attacking US policy sometimes, but that is the extent of it. On the other hand, look at what happened to the people who voted for the AWACS, most notably senator (Charles) Percy who is not by any account anti-Israel. According to Israel's own accounting, his voting record was 90 per cent pro-Israel. That was not good enough for Israel. It has to be 100 per cent. So, Percy was defeated, and congressmen and senators say why should I bring any trouble for myself? If I vote in favour of an arms sale to an Arab country, I can not be sure that I will keep my seat in the future, but if I go along and vote it, then no trouble is going to come my way.

Q: How do you foresee the future of the Arab World after the oil boom?

A: I think the price of oil now is too low, and it is only going to get even lower. But that is not because of any strong economic forces in the world. It is because of lack of cohesion inside OPEC primarily, and to some extent because of the efforts of non-OPEC exporters to maximize their income at the expense of OPEC. But this could change. If the price of oil drops to \$10 a barrel, then number of non-OPEC exporters might decide that it might be best to curtail production somewhat in order to maintain good prices. And if the price of oil drops by 50 per cent, some oil producing countries like Mexico are going to have extremely difficult problems. It is, therefore, in Mexico's interest to reach an agreement with OPEC. They then, can limit production and fix the price at \$30. It might be done, but Arabs and OPEC seem more interested in fighting each other than in co-operation. I am hoping that reason will prevail, because, otherwise, the future for all oil-producing countries looks bleak indeed. One is tempted to look at this situation almost in theological terms. The people who have the oil now, many of whom are Arabs, have been given the ability to transform not only their own countries, but the entire Arab world if they chose to do so, but much time has been lost, and much money has been squandered. We should look into ways that would make the transition from the oil era to the post oil era smooth. And that cannot be achieved if the price of oil continues to fall.

Temporary measures by the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and commercial banks have held the problem at bay, no more.

World trade problems have multiplied. Protectionist barriers by the North continue to impoverish the Third World. Disputes among partners in the long-standing alliances, such as Japan and the United States, have overshadowed the grievances of developing countries seeking their way out of indebtedness through trade.

The World Bank reported this year that terms of trade of developing countries were unlikely to be realised at the levels set in 1980. Debt repayments would depend on how trade grew in the coming years.

"The massive overhang of external debt has grown even larger, and concern about the financial situation has been rekindled," the bank said.

Commercial bank debt involving

Q: When, do you think, the war between Iran and Iraq will come to an end?

A: I do not think that this war will end as long as Khomeini is alive. If he is removed from the scene one way or the other, then I think the war could, and very quickly. And I think that other leaders in Iran are less visionary, and more realistic. It is of course in Israel's interest to have this war continue for ever. Also the Heritage Foundation, a very conservative think tank in Washington, recommended that US policy should be to encourage the continuation of the war. I hope that the administration is not adopting this recommendation, and I do not think it is.

By Sajid Rizvi

LONDON — The hunger that stems from war is a familiar pain in the present century, known not least to the now well-fed older generation of Europeans. But it was a member of that generation, Willy Brandt, who warned of the hunger that could lead to war.

In assessing the prospects for 1986, the global crises of drought and famine, overpopulation, collapse of the environment, debt and the economy must be ranked alongside the threat of military conflict.

If the Geneva summit lowered the rhetorical temperature, the devastating African famine highlighted the dangers of these extra dimensions to global upheaval.

National indebtedness, dying forests, poisoned rivers and polluted cities are relatively new human experiences whose solution is baffling national authorities.

Asked Brandt in a recent lecture in New York, "Can one rule out today that hunger and mass misery are conducive to the conditions from which new wars arise?"

He said, "The \$1,000 billion which the world spends on military purposes this year really amounts to a death sentence for millions of human beings."

But the ideal of lower arms spending as a panacea for global problems is unlikely to be reached soon, barring a dramatic accord between the superpowers.

Funds available to address "secondary," that is, non-military, problems remain short and priorities lopsided. Realistically, there is no alternative but to see the problems grow, as they have grown since the "innocent decades," the 1950s and the 1960s.

What are the threats facing 1986?

The Debt Mountain:

In his novel, Cataclysm: the North-South Conflict of 1987, William Clark, a banker, predicted a financial catastrophe greater than the Wall Street crash if the poor debtor nations renege on their debts.

Temporary measures by the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and commercial banks have held the problem at bay, no more.

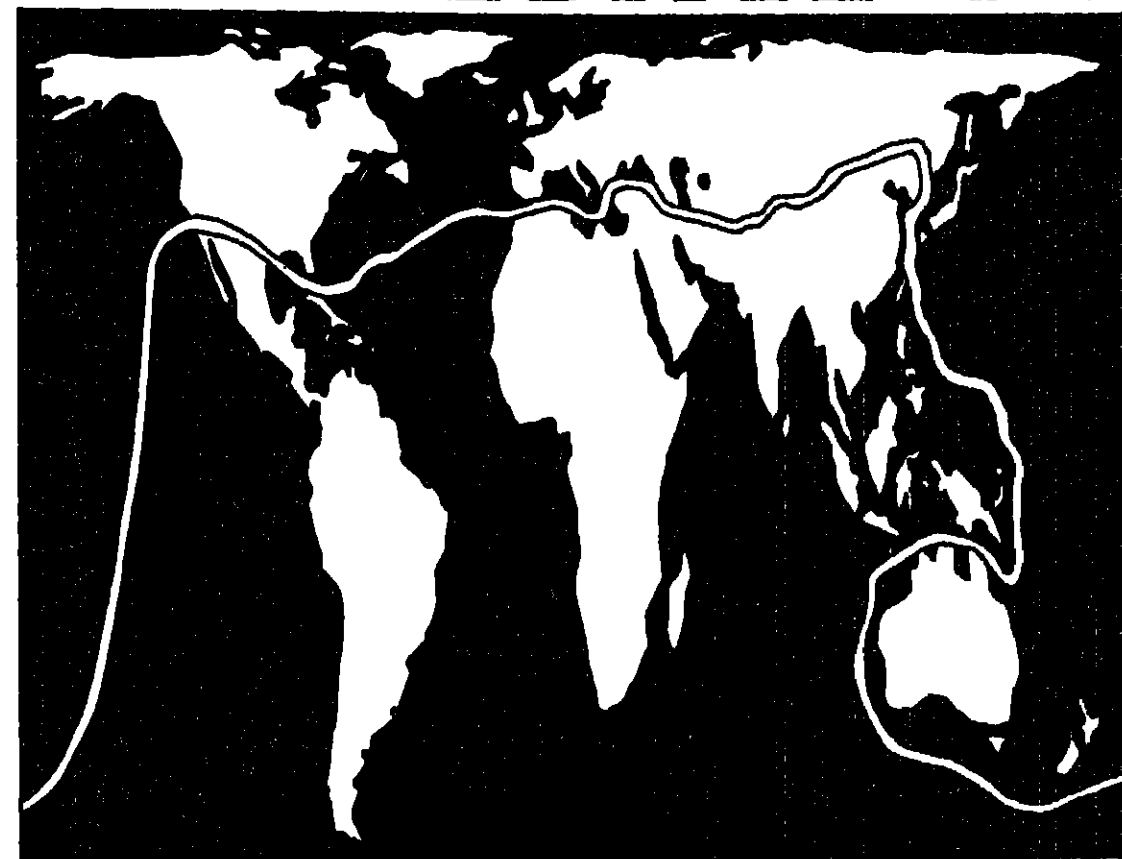
World trade problems have multiplied. Protectionist barriers by the North continue to impoverish the Third World. Disputes among partners in the long-standing alliances, such as Japan and the United States, have overshadowed the grievances of developing countries seeking their way out of indebtedness through trade.

The World Bank reported this year that terms of trade of developing countries were unlikely to be realised at the levels set in 1980. Debt repayments would depend on how trade grew in the coming years.

"The massive overhang of external debt has grown even larger, and concern about the financial situation has been rekindled," the bank said.

Commercial bank debt involving

PERSPECTIVE 86



The non-military crises

Territorial ambitions turned to war traditionally have constituted the greatest threat to global equilibrium. In recent years global crises have emerged of a "civilian" nature: crushing debt, a disintegrating environment, swelling populations.

Third World nations alone runs to more than \$600 billion. About \$115 billion in due payments were rescheduled in 1984, and more reschedulings took place in 1985, but in the process the debt pile was shifted, not reduced.

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) calculated that if debtor countries' economies grew at around 3.25 per cent over the next decade they would earn just enough to keep GDP at 1980 levels. Poorer countries could be worse off.

There seemed little enthusiasm among the commercial banks for a \$20 billion debt relief plan presented by US Treasury Secretary James A. Baker.

Baker called for \$20 billion lending by commercial banks and \$9 billion by government banks. Critics argued the real solutions lie elsewhere, particularly in free trade.

Faced with scarce earnings, protectionism and multiple reschedulings, could the debtors then refuse to pay up?

According to the World Bank, "the rescheduling process is only a postponement of that day when repayment of debts is due. Prob-



Willy Brandt

lems may occur in the future, all the more so as interest on the rescheduled amounts continues to accrue."

But bankers tend to dismiss the idea any debtor could renege. However, few of them can explain convincingly how they will recover

more than half the commercial debt total — roughly \$260 billion — owed by 10 of the most impoverished countries in South America, Asia and Eastern Europe.

Food or Famine: Debt leads the list of non-military crises, and is further bedevilled by poor agriculture and, lately, a disintegrating environment that eats away sources of revenue.

World food and agricultural production rose more than 4 per cent in 1984, one of the best figures of the past decade, but it fell further in the poorer countries.

China and India scored the highest increases among low-income countries; the rest of Asia and Africa contributed much less to the world average. In Africa 21 countries famine or severe food shortages, affecting 210 million people. Deaths from hunger continue.

The African population grew by 3 per cent, while the best agricultural performance was a 2 per cent production increase. Cereal imports to meet the shortfall have risen five-fold over 15 years.

"Drought, world recession and in some countries, civil and milit-

ary strife are all contributory factors," the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation said, seeking the reasons for so dismal a showing.

"However, the ultimate causes of the problem have more to do with such long-term constraints on progress as deficiencies in infrastructure, a lack of trained personnel, and failure to support rural development," the FAO said in its 1985 report.

By the year 2000, some 30 African countries with a population of 484 million people will be unable to feed themselves unless there is a striking improvement in agricultural performance.

Africa is a glaring example of a devastated environment, but not the only one. Europe is considering the specter of a continent without trees — all killed by acid rain, caused by a variety of fossil fuels.

A UN study recently cited major damage in Africa and Asia, as well as North America and Europe.

It said major cities in West Africa, China, South Asia, South-East Asia and the Middle East were likely victims of large-scale pollution.

But airborne pollution presents only a fraction of the monumental damage to the environment, most of it continued with impunity in the Third World in the name of progress.

A Crowded Planet:

World population, today about 4.48 billion, is expected to slow down over the next 100 years but still to exceed 10 billion.

The period of reckoning, however, would come much earlier, around the year 2000, according to the UN Food for Population Activities.

"Population stability beyond the year 2000 will be crucial to both development and peace," said UNFPA. Can it be achieved?

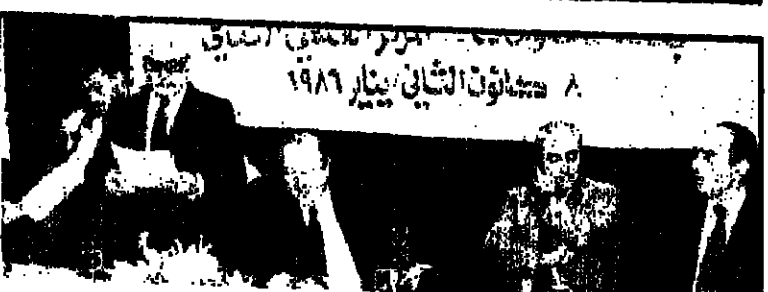
The experts' pessimistic view is that annual additions to world population will rise through the rest of the century, from 78 millions now to 90 millions by 2000.

Worse, urbanisation will hasten the deterioration of agriculture and the environment. In Africa, city population increased from 11 to 22 per cent of the total in the past two decades.

Worldwide, another half a billion will move into cities from villages in the Third World before the end of the century. But the Third World is far from equipped to deal with urbanisation. Most of its cities are a collection of slums already.

The nearly 44 per cent of its people — some 2,228 million — who will be living in cities of sorts by 2000 will have given up rural lands, agriculture, traditional family life, and the ability to contribute meaningfully to the recovery the Third World needs.

Instead they will be dependent on the ramshackle industrial societies that their chronically indebted, polluted and undernourished world has produced.



Shoman Foundation projects opened

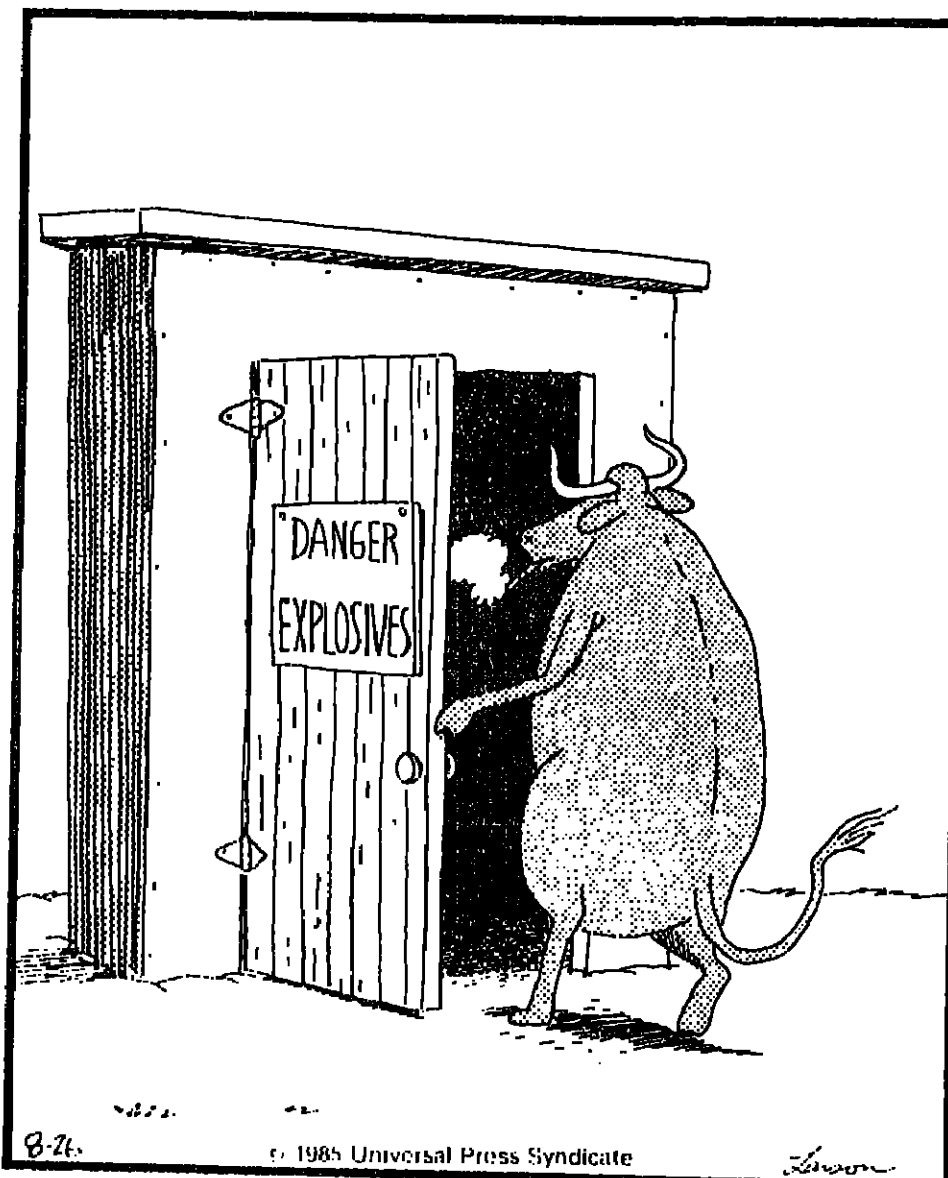
AMMAN (Star) — The Prime Minister Zaid Rifai officially opened three projects belonging to Abdel Hamid Shoman Foundation on Wednesday. They are the Abdel Hamid Shoman Public Library, Data Bank and the Scientific and Cultural Centre, all located in Shmoulan. In a speech delivered at the opening ceremony, Mr Rifai commended the cultural and civilised goals of the Foundation. He said the projects constitute a modern attempt to fill gaps and fulfil needs.

The Prime Minister also declared the acceptance of the Foundation as a participant in the Amman Municipality's planned 94-drum public library and conference palace.

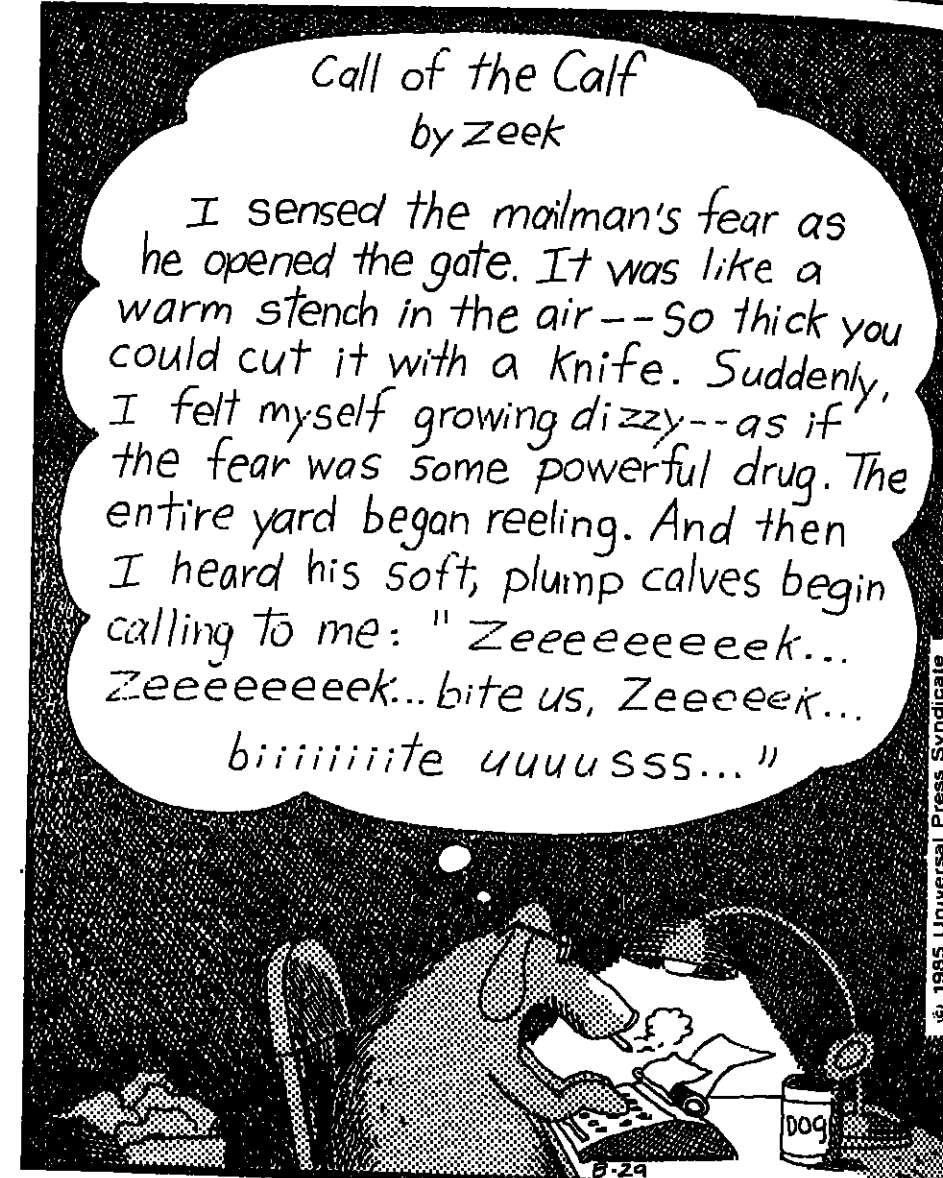
Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Foundation Abdel Majid Shoman earlier welcomed the Prime Minister and said that one of the Foundation's goals was to participate in Arab scientific research and to help produce a new generation of Arab specialists in the various fields of basic sciences and technology.

He said that the Abdel Hamid Shoman Public Library aims to spread knowledge and culture in society and hopes to fulfil the goal of continuing education for the citizens of this country. The Data Bank and the Scientific and Cultural Centre will provide vital information for researchers by the use of computers.

Wednesday's celebration was attended by Arab Bank directors and staff, Amman Mayor Abdel Raouf Al Rawabdeh, and the Foundation's trustees.



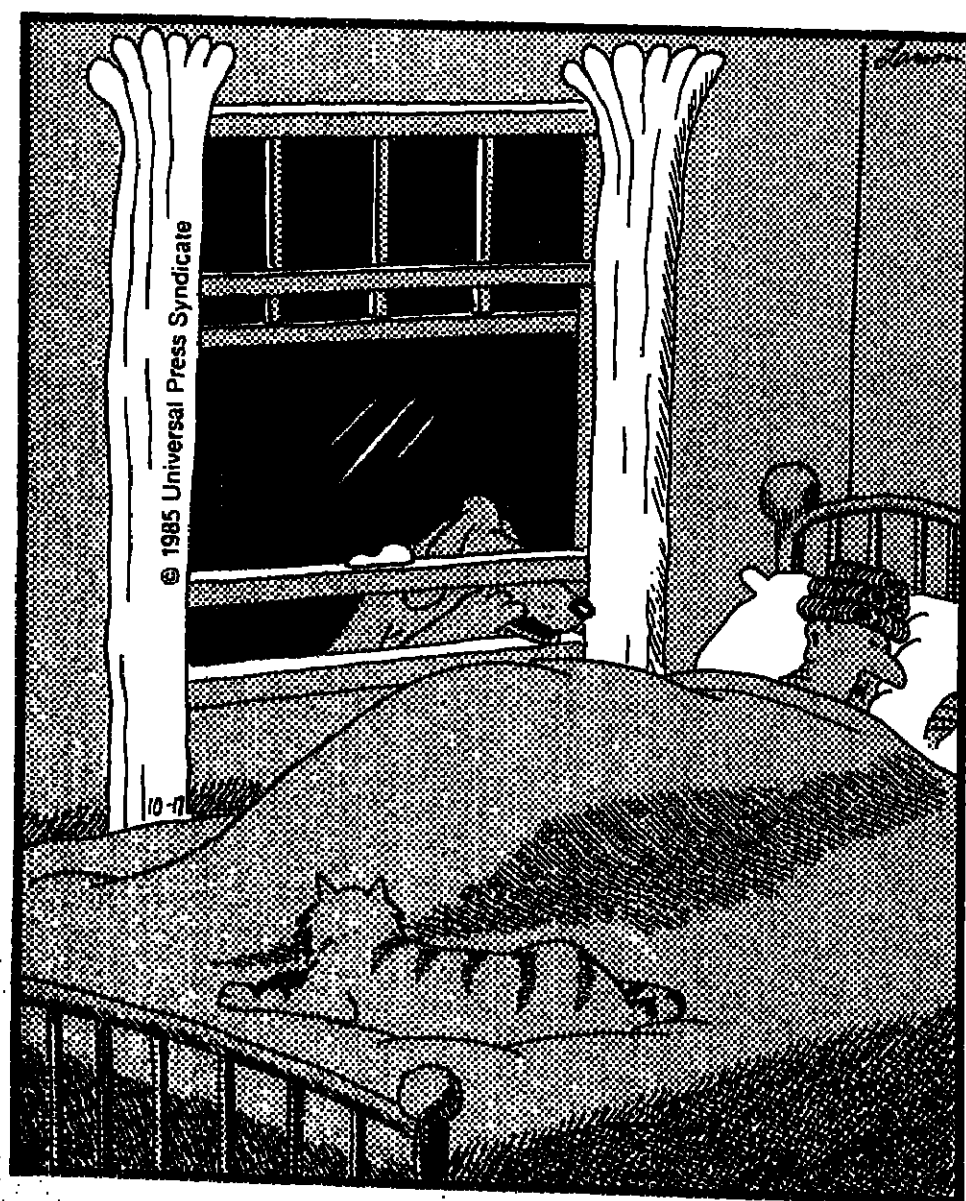
Dumb ox



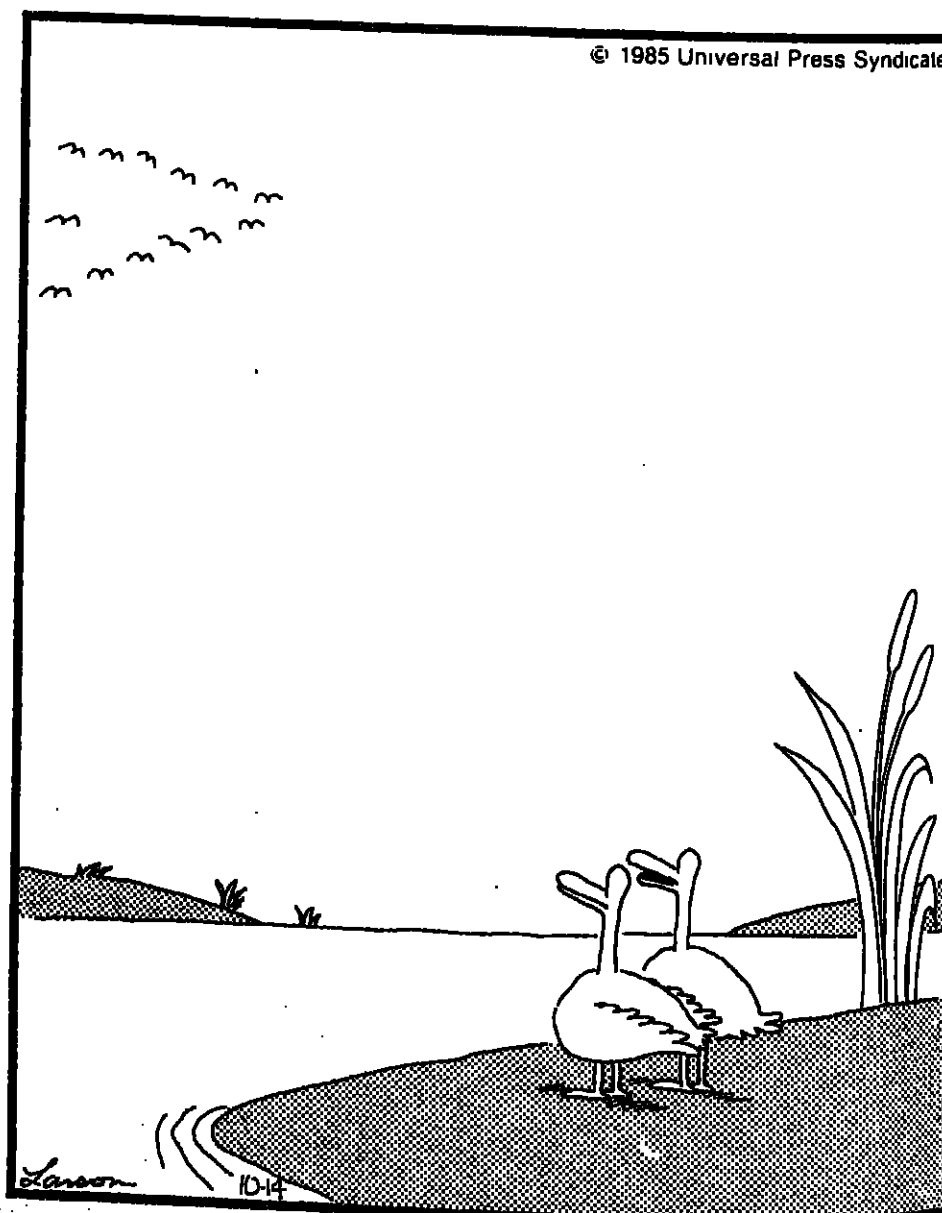
Creative dog writing

THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"Puuuuut the caaaaaat ouuuuuuuuuut ... Puuuuuut the caaaaaat ouuuuuuuuuut ..."



"I just can't tell from here. ... That could either be our flock, another flock, or just a bunch of little m's."

By Keir Radnedge

LONDON — World football may one day look back on August and September of 1985 and see there the turning point in the sport's history.

For years such experts as former Brazilian manager Joao Saldanha have predicted a World Cup-winning nation coming not from the game's traditional home-lands in Europe or South America but from black Africa.

Now that prospect appears two steps nearer reality, thanks to the young stars of Nigeria.

It was in the 1960s that African football first began to demand respect. The black Mozambique-born forward Eusebio thrilled Europe with the quality and quantity of his goals for Benfica of Lisbon and for the Portuguese national side in the finals of the 1966 World Cup.

At the same time Ghana's national team, Black Stars, ran up impressive results in friendly matches against top clubs such as Spain's Real Madrid.

Nigeria, which became independent from Britain in 1960, was then an international football beginner. Now — although eliminated in the qualifying rounds of the 1986 World Cup — it stands among Africa's leading exponents.

The first warning came in the inaugural World Under-18 Championship held in August in China. In the opening group matches the so-called Baby Eagles (the senior players are the Green Eagles) beat Italy 1-0, drew 0-0 with Saudi Arabia and cruised past Costa Rica 3-0.

That impressive start earned a quarter-final against Hungary which the Nigerians won 3-1, and in the semi-final they met their toughest opponents — fellow Africans from Guinea.



The national football team of Ghana, the Black Stars: A force to reckon with

The match finished all-square at 1-1, but the Nigerians possessed steadier nerves when it came to the penalty shoot-out and won by 5-3.

For all those successes, few in the Workers' Stadium in Beijing gave the Nigerians much chance of beating the West Germans in the final.

But beat them they did, 2-0 with goals from Salisu Nakade (3 minutes) and Sani Adamu (89). Nigeria held on for victory despite having defender Amakpor sent off half an hour from the end.

The tournament's top scorer, Marcel Witczek from Bayer Uerdingen, was allowed hardly a kick at the ball, and Nigeria's Bella Momoh was voted third in the Player of the Tournament poll, behind Brazil's William de Oliveira and Witczek.

LOOK BEYOND Mexico to the world soccer cup finals in Italy in 1990 and the competitions in 1994 and 1998, and the chances are a black African nation will be challenging for supremacy.

London and Koblenz. Next year he expects to get his teacher's diploma in Oregon.

Running demands tremendous concentration, he says.

In the Los Angeles 800 metres final, he said, "from the start until I received the medal, I didn't feel any emotion. The concentration required is to intense that you don't return to reality immediately."

"I only celebrated my victory days later, when I watched a videotape at home in Eugene."

Cruz believes the secret of his speed is his concentration on the length rather than the number of his running steps.

He divides his run into three essential movements, including a forward impulse as his foot hits the track, and tries to keep his feet close to the ground.

The son of a poor carpenter, Cruz began his sporting career in 1975 at the age of 12, showing promise at both soccer and basketball.

His basketball coach, Luiz de Oliveira, discovered Cruz's running ability and persuaded the reluctant boy to turn to track racing, a sport he thought was "stupid."

De Oliveira became Cruz's personal coach. His progress was rapid and in 1981, aged 18, he set a new world junior 800-metre record. Two years later, now based in Oregon, Cruz won the bronze medal at the World Championships in Helsinki.

Cruz said he had to leave Brazil for the United States in order to improve.

"Brazil has the best temperature in the world, and doesn't have storms and snow. We also have good human material, but what is needed is hard work and the proper conditions to realise it."

This year Cruz is participating in about 25 international meetings, including events in Paris, Rome, London and Koblenz.

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Joaquim Cruz: Brazil's reluctant track hero

By Harold Emert

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil — Winning the 800 metres gold medal at 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles doesn't make Brazil's Joaquim Cruz a hero — at least, not in his own eyes.

"I'm the same person as before, and have much to learn. This hero business only exists in the public's mind," said the 22-year-old athlete in an interview.

But other observers are convinced that Cruz, the first Brazilian runner to win an Olympic gold medal, has the potential to become one of the all-time track greats.

Following his Los Angeles success, when he swept past English world record-holders Sebastian Coe and Steve Ovett, Cruz was named 1984 Athlete of the year by the news agency Prensa Latina.

Coe described the experience as "being mugged by a teenager," and said, "Cruz is a rare combination of strength and agility."

Trainer Harry Wilson, internationally respected for his work with Ovett, said, "Cruz revolutionised the 800-metre run. This is a test not for athletes but for supermen."

Cruz lives in Eugene, Oregon, and has studied physical education at the University of Oregon since 1982.

He said he would not be returning in the immediate future to his native Brazil, where he grew up in humble circumstances in Taguat

inga, a satellite district of Brasilia. His mother still lives there.

"If I returned home now, I'd have no peace with journalists bothering me and the public haunting me," he said. "This doesn't suit my temperament — I'd rather stay in Oregon."

But Cruz, who is starting to acquire an American accent, said he loves Brazil and has no plans to become an American citizen. The real problem is Brazil's facilities and sporting attitudes.

"It is necessary to improve conditions for sports in Brazil," he said. "Before anything else, it is necessary to change the men who rule Brazil's sports world. If not, everything will remain the same."

Cruz complains that Brazil over-emphasises soccer, to the detriment of other sports.

"We will not have results if we think only in terms of soccer. Volleyball has only now got international projection because it has obtained more backing. If Brazil doesn't begin to finance and support other sports, its athletic world will remain the same."

He said his own success would enable "people to see it's possible

for a Brazilian to achieve good results in athletics. It's like soccer — we need Pelé and Zico to give incentive to others."

One of the keys to his success is his desire to win. "To lose is very easy — you don't need to expend any energy for it," he said.

"To win, you need to push out your chest and have confidence, calmness and patience — particularly the latter two. You have to take the lead at the right moment. If not, bye-bye gold medal."

A man of few words, Cruz neither drinks nor smokes. Rather than enjoying the night life, he aims to go to bed early.

"I'm a very quiet person. There are people who don't understand this, and think I'm bad-tempered. Not at all. The problem is, I become embarrassed when people begin to praise me too much."

"I also realise that when people win, they receive lots of support, but when they lose, it's not the same. I don't like to exaggerate anything. These moments of victory are only passing ones."

This year Cruz is participating in about 25 international meetings, including events in Paris, Rome,

and achievement prompted coach Sebastian Broderick to forecast, "This invasion into the hierarchies of world football by a black African nation is just the start."

The World Youth Championship began in the Soviet Union two weeks later for players up to the age of 20. Again, Nigeria was among the giants.

In the first round the Nigerians beat Canada 2-0, lost 2-1 to their Soviet hosts and defeated Australia 3-2. In the quarter-final they won 2-1 against Mexico, but then succumbed 2-0 to eventual Champions Brazil in the semi-final.

So, champions at under-16 level and third among the under-20s after defeating the Soviet Union (after penalties) in a play-off. Will these exciting, talented Nigerians rank among the long-range favourites for the 1990 World Cup finals in Italy?

Most great footballers reach their peak in their late 20s, which puts Nigeria on course to fulfil Saldanha's prediction that a black African nation will win the World Cup before the end of the century.

Zaire in 1974 was the first black African nation to reach the World Cup finals and Cameroon made an excellent impression in the 1982 finals in Spain. Goalkeeper Thomas Nkomo was immediately signed by the Barcelona club, Espanol, where he is now a star figure.

But Nigeria, with a population of 93 million, is the most populous country on the continent and soccer has a long tradition, having been introduced by British missionaries.

The Nigerian Football Association was set up in 1945 and became affiliated to the English FA on a wave of renewed enthusiasm for the sport engendered by British troops stationed in the West African nation during World War II.

A first unofficial international was played — and lost 1-0 — against the Gold Coast (later Ghana) in 1950, and independence provided a patriotic surge for the Green Eagles in the 1960s.

The NFA joined FIFA and the African Confederation in 1959 and quickly enrolled in competitions such as the World Cup and the African Nations' championship.

Top clubs such as Enugu Rangers and Shooting Stars entered African club competitions and achieved Nigeria's first international successes.

In 1975 Rangers reached the final of the Champions Cup, and a year later Shooting Stars won the Cup-winners Cup, defeating Tonnerre de Camerooun 4-1, 1-0 in the final. Two years later Enugu Rangers won the Cup-winners Cup as well.

The Green Eagles had to wait for international glory until 1980 when, at last, Nigeria took full advantage of its role as host for the African Nations Cup to lift the crown for the first time with a 3-0 victory over Algeria.

Just as in the under-16 final five years later, Nigeria drew its strength from a rapid-fire start — star forward Odegbami put the team ahead after only three minutes. He also scored a second goal just before half-time to emphasise Nigerian superiority.

Keir Radnedge is associate editor of World Soccer magazine in London.



Richard Markham and David Nettle.

No shortage of flying fingers

FASCINATED by the sight of the pianists' fingers flying across the keys? Then why not see two sets, instead of the usual one, at a concert by British piano duo Richard Markham and David Nettle at the Royal Cultural Centre on Wednesday 15 January at 8.00 p.m.

This is Markham and Nettle's second visit to Jordan, their first was in 1983, and in the interim they have been remarkably busy expanding their musical repertoire and travelling the world.

Richard Markham and David Nettle are rapidly gaining a reputation as Britain's leading piano duo. Their musical tastes encompass the standard repertoire as well as less familiar, unjustly neglected works. The range and variety of the programmes they devise for one piano and four hands, and two pianos is vast. They also appear as soloists with major orchestras, including the Royal Philharmonic, Ulster and Halle Orchestras.

Their recital and orchestral appearances range world-wide as well as throughout the UK and they frequently take part in British festivals and record regularly for the BBC and European radio stations. In 1979 they made their North American debut.

Their travels in 1983 included a tour of the Far East (covering 35,000 miles in three months) which began in Sydney where the duo joined the QE2 as performers on the world cruise, and a tour of the Middle East, sponsored by the British Council. In 1984 they visited Greece and Bulgaria, where their performance in the Sofia Music Festival was recorded for both radio and television. January 1985 found them giving concerts in Sri Lanka, and that February they made their German debut.

The duo made a special feature of the two-piano music of Percy Grainger during his centenary year, presenting concerts and recordings both in the UK and the Netherlands, and also performed the complete piano duet works of Stravinsky in centenary recitals in 1982.

In October last year they gave a two-piano recital at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London to mark the 150th anniversary of the birth of Saint-Saëns and this was greeted with considerable critical acclaim. The Daily Telegraph commented: "Jolie de vivre was very much in the air at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on Wednesday night. Markham and Nettle brought remarkably taut co-ordination and response to the music, and an irresistible sense of fun".

Works at next Wednesday's concert will include a Marche Militaire by Franz Schubert, the most prolific composer of music for four hands at one piano. No doubt duets featured in the 'Schubertiads' organized by Franz and his circle of friends explains why he wrote more music for four hands than any other composer. Dvorak also features in their programme, as do three twentieth-century British composers, Kenneth Leighton, Edward German and Eric Coates.

A matinee performance for young people will also be given at the RCC on Thursday, 16 January at 11.00 a.m. It should be lively and entertaining event, as the duo illustrate the history of piano duets through commentary and playing the two instruments.

Future plans for 1986 include concerts and recordings in the Netherlands, Germany, Greece, France and Spain, and appearances in the Bath, Cheltenham and Aldeburgh Festivals.

Quran buyers keep the market buoyant

By Sajid Rizvi

DEMAND FOR the word of Allah appears inexhaustible — at least in the ancient written form. Once again a London dealer has come up with new manuscripts or pages from an antique Quran and had no difficulty finding buyers.

The Quran sales epitomise the boom in Islamic art, which began in the early 1980s. Although personal earnings and institutional budgets are down in the Islamic world because of falling oil revenues, determined art-seekers have kept the market busy.

"The collector has concentrated more and more on the Quran, which is very basic to any good Islamic collection," a dealer said.

At a two-day sale at Sotheby's in late November, Islamic artefacts totalling \$466,366 changed hands, said a spokeswoman.

The bulk were manuscripts, of which the Quran was a major part.

The sale included a range of early Quran work on vellum, including some highly-stylised examples in the Kufic script.

"Interest remains very strong in early calligraphy, particularly vellum Quran leaves dating back anywhere between the 8th and

the 13th century A.D.," said Nabil Saeedi, a Sotheby's Islamic expert.

The Kufic style, after the town of Kufa in Iraq, is notable for its lack of sweeping crescents and curves characteristic of Arabic script.

It was largely abandoned which favoured the Naskh script for the Quran text and the Persian-style Nastaliq script for Tafseer, or commentary.

Saeedi said apart from the Kufic leaves, collectors were drawn to the Ottoman Quran, lavishly illuminated, beautifully calligraphed and a pleasure to see or show off.

"The late Ottoman Quran (from the middle of the 19th century) sells very well, because it is very decorative," Saeedi said.

A calligraphic panel incorporating 99 names of God in the Nastaliq script, signed by Umar al-Wasif Sivasli, Constantinople, and dated 1282 of the Hegira (1845 A.D.) went for \$25,400. Sotheby's had anticipated about a third of this price.

However, he said, interest in the middle period encompassing the 17th to early 18th centuries remained largely specialised or academic.

"They didn't do that well. They are solid good Qurans, but not attractive for collectors seeking the

Quran for decorative purposes."

Nevertheless the 17th-19th century Quran still found buyers among academic institutions and serious collectors, such as museums in the Middle East. "They are more important for academic and serious collectors (than the later Qurans)," he said.

While Islamic art of universal value easily finds buyers, Persian artefacts of the Muslim period are not doing as well as before.

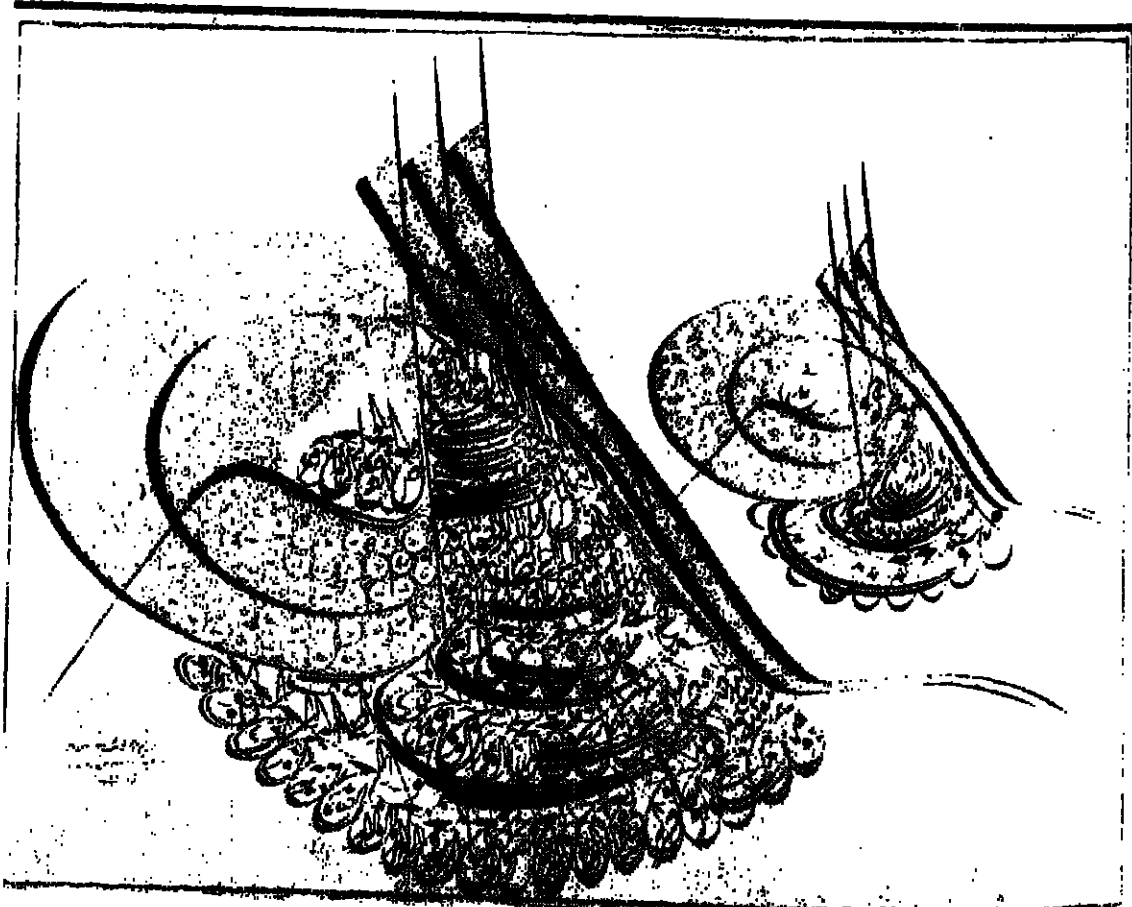
Saeedi said the slowness can be attributed to the absence of the Iranian museums, major buyers before the Islamic revolution in 1979.

One of the most publicised items in the Sotheby's sale, a mid-16th century Persian manuscript with eight miniatures depicting the romance of Yusuf and Zulaikha, went unsold.

Sotheby's had anticipated the manuscript, which was originally produced in Bokhara in the present Soviet Central Asia and restored by Mughal artists in India, would be grabbed for its rarity value.

But an expert said the idea of damage made good by latter-day artists appeared to have dissuaded buyers. Added to it was the lukewarm reception for Persian art from Arabic-oriented buyers.

(Compass Feature)



Ottoman Qurans are particularly good sellers



"Apparently, he's a black belt in macramé."

HOLCE



Your TV guide

Channel 6 programmes from 11-17 January



THAT'S MY BOY on Tuesday at 8:30

Discovering the unexpected

Saturday

* 8:30 MIND YOUR LANGUAGE, "Too Many Crooks": "Has Ranjet met his Match?" Hen-shaw, the new caretaker, proves more than a match for the redoubtable Miss Courtney, and Ranjet meets his match when, whilst taking care of his cousin's grocery shop, two crooks burst in to rob the till. To evade capture, the crooks decide to take refuge in the school and pose as two new foreign students with hilarious results.

* 9:10 AUTOMANIA, the last episode

* 10:20 A FEATURE FILM, "They came from Beyond Space"

Sunday

* 8:30 CABBAGE PATCH

* 9:10 END OF EMPIRE, episode 2, "India — The Engine of War": In 1939 the Second World War started. It was the right time for the Indian political and spiritual leader Mahatma Gandhi to announce disobedience against the British and to strike until his country gets independence. The British Prime Minister Winston Churchill refused to give independence to India so he put the main National Leaders in prison because India was a rich source of support to the British in the war.

* 10:20 DEMPSEY AND MAKEPEACE

Monday

* 8:30 BOTTLE BOYS

* 9:10 TENDER IS THE NIGHT: Dick and his wife made

a party in their castle and there he happened to know the beautiful movie star Rosemary who came to the party with her mother.

* 10:20 DALLAS

Tuesday

* 8:30 THAT'S MY BOY: Ada thinks that the couple she is working for will leave to live in Australia so she decided to go to the agency to look for another job.

* 9:10 A FORTUNATE LIFE: Fortune seems to smile to young Bert. He goes to work for the Phillips, a childless couple who treat him as one of the family.

* 10:20 THE EQUALIZER: McCall is a former CIA agent who has dedicated long and hard years of service that cost him his marriage and almost his

son as he fought for his ideals and against the system.

Wednesday

* 8:30 THREE'S COMPANY, "Honest Jack Tripper": Jack invites his beautiful girlfriend to the apartment he shares with his two room-mates. His girlfriend thinks that he lives alone.

* 9:10 CONNECTION: The effect of wars on the world and the need which leads to modern inventions.

* 10:20 FALCON CREST: Chase, is given more poison by the doctor who is planning to kill him and when Angela comes to the hospital the doctor tells her that Chase is dying.

Thursday

* 8:30 EMERGENCY ROOM

* RETURN TO EDEN: While Stephanie is riding her horse she gets shot and sent to hospital for surgery.

* 10:20 A FEATURE FILM, "The Disappearance of Azaria Chamberlain": A true story about an Australian family who went campaign. The mother discovers that her 9 month old daughter has disappeared. The police begin investigating the case and discover the unexpected.

Friday

* 8:30 A NEW COMEDY SERIES

* 9:10 THE FAR PAVILIONS: Ashoke will accompany the two princesses for a wedding ceremony in a remote province.

* 10:20 HUNTER, "Hard Contract"

Cinema Corner

By Reem Yasin

The Sound of Music

One of my "favourite things"

WHAT IS better than starting the new year with "The Sound of Music"? This splendid film is one of the American Centre's offerings for the month of January.

It is very hard to think of any film buff who has not already seen "The Sound of Music" at least once during the past twenty years. It is even harder to conceive of anybody who has not first released in 1965 it broke all world records at the box-office, its earnings surpassed even "Gone With the Wind", which had not yet been overtaken.

Directed and produced by Robert Wise and starring the inimitable Julie Andrews the film won five Oscars. Its stunning photography was shot entirely on location in and around Salzburg in Austria, with breathtaking panoramas of Tyrolean scenery. With a charming musical score and most memorable songs the film is undoubtedly a highly professional production and remains one of Hollywood's most appealing musicals, offering unashamed escapism and unpretentious sentimentality.

Paradoxically, however, the film is based on the true story of the Von Trapp family during the Nazi annexation of Austria in World War II. Julie Andrews plays the role of Maria, the mischievous young novice who falls in love and later marries the stern Captain Von Trapp (Christopher Plummer), father of the seven adorably troublesome children to whom she is governess.

As she did in her role as the magical nanny "Mary Poppins" (another very popular musical) Julie Andrews bestows on the film a great part of its exuberance. With gleaming freshness and friendly good cheer Julie Andrews proverbially lights up the screen. She seems to be thoroughly enjoying herself as she teaches the children the musical notes of "Do Re Mi" and sings to them about a few of her "favourite things".

In its subjects, mood and presentation "The Sound of Music" is the quintessential musical, a genre of film in which Hollywood particularly excels. With its lavish production, breathtaking photography, melodious tunes, overall cheerfulness and inevitable happy ending, the film provides the rosy dream world for which "tinsel town" is well known.

But all things considered, "The Sound of Music" remains great entertainment for all those who enjoy melody and romance. For the young at heart the film is a feast of sight and sound, a pleasure for the eye and a joy to the ear.

N.B. The film is scheduled for screening this afternoon (Thursday 9/1) at 5.00 p.m. and again on Thursday 23 January at the American Centre.

Top Records

In US

1. Say You, Say Me — Lionel Richie
2. Party All The Time — Eddie Murphy
3. That's What Friends Are For — Dionne + Friends
4. Alive And Kicking — Simple Minds
5. I Miss You — Klymaxx
6. Small Town — John Cougar Mellencamp
7. Tonight She Comes — The Cars
8. Talk To Me — Stevie Nicks
9. Broken Wings — Mr Mister
10. Walk Of Life — Dire Straits